

3 dead in Kazakhstan violence

MOSCOW (R) — Groups of Russian and Kazakh youths fought a pitched street battle in a Central Asian town, leaving three dead and five injured in a fresh outbreak of violence in the region, TASS news agency reported Saturday. TASS said the fighting Thursday in the Kazakh town of Semipalatinsk pitted groups armed with sticks, stones and metal bars against each other. It did not specifically cite ethnic reasons for the fighting, a day after a Communist Party meeting aimed at dealing with the country's ethnic strife. But the published names of the three victims made clear that Kazakhs and Russians were involved. Ethnic violence is viewed as the most serious threat to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika programme of political, economic and social reforms. This week's plenary meeting of the Communist Party Central Committee agreed a programme dealing with problems affecting more than 100 nationalities. The document, the final version of which was published Saturday, calls for more power to be delegated to the country's 15 republics and for national languages and culture to be allowed to develop more fully.

Jordan Times

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Ceasefire in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Arab League envoy Lakhdar Brahimi said a security committee he heads had agreed on a ceasefire throughout Lebanon from 3:15 p.m. (1215 GMT) Saturday.

He said the five-member committee comprising representatives of Lebanon's warring factions also ordered an end to the blockade on rightist-controlled ports and the reopening of Beirut airport.

The security committee met Saturday for the first time since army chief Michel Aoun accepted the Arab League peace plan Friday to end six months of fighting which has devastated Beirut and killed hundreds of civilians.

The committee includes one officer each representing troops loyal to Aoun and those backing civilian Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss and representatives of the hardline rightist Lebanese Forces militia, the Shiite Amal movement and the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP).

A de facto ceasefire took hold after Aoun accepted the peace plan and Beirutis crowded city streets Saturday expressing cautious optimism that the latest peace proposals in Lebanon's 14-year civil war would succeed.

Syria urged a quick implementation of the peace plan which has been cautiously welcomed throughout the Arab World.

Syria's official Tishrin daily

newspaper said any delay in the implementation of the accord might give Aoun time to change the balance of power in Lebanon.

Tishrin said: "We should remember this is not the first time Aoun is forced to announce a mere formal acceptance of a matter of consensus in the hope of the occurrence of better circumstances in the future."

"This makes us insist on turning his acceptance into action."

France and the United States have welcomed the decision to accept the plan, while Arab newspapers saw in the move an important step to bring about peace, expressing at the same time fear this might be undermined by Israel.

The speaker of Lebanon's parliament confirmed Saturday that it would convene on Sept. 30, as stipulated in the peace plan.

Hussein Husseini told Reuters in an interview that the venue for the meeting would be decided Monday.

Husseini said he expected at least 60 of the 73 surviving deputies of the 99-seat house would attend and said they must work to reach a political solution to Lebanon's crisis to back up the ceasefire ordered Saturday.

"Any security plan will not hold for one minute unless it is reinforced by a serious political effort," he said.

The parliament, in which Christians have a majority over

Muslims, was elected in 1972. No elections have been possible since civil war broke out in 1975.

The Arab League plan called for parliament to meet on Sept. 30 to debate a "national reconciliation charter" proposing reforms to increase the power of Muslims in a political system now favouring Christians.

Husseini said he hoped that it would elect a head of state within two weeks of convening. "I hope that within a week of parliamentarians meeting on Sept. 30 that the political document will be approved and within another week there will be an agreement on a presidential candidate," he said.

Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi thanked Lebanon's leading politicians for cooperating with the league committee which drafted the latest plan.

Klibi thanked Aoun and Hoss and said he hoped the new ceasefire would lead to national reconciliation and the resurrection of legal institutions.

Klibi sent separate messages to the heads of state and foreign ministers of the committee member states Morocco, Algeria and Saudi Arabia congratulating them on the success of their mediation efforts.

Meanwhile thousands of refugees from Beirut flooded back to their war-hattered city Saturday.



TWO children play with remaining pieces of exploded shells at Beirut's Green Line

Palestinians welcome Israeli pacifists, troops expel them

BEIT SAHOUR, Occupied West Bank (R) — Israeli peace activists seeking to talk to Palestinians Saturday got a warm welcome from Arab villagers and a frosty reception from troops who expelled them under escort.

At least 50 members of the Peace Now group drove from occupied Jerusalem along twisting lanes and unpaved mountain tracks, trying to dodge army road blocks and reach the West Bank village of Tukua where Palestinians had invited them to talk peace.

The occupied West Bank's army chief, Major General Yitzhak Mordechai, banned the visit, declared the region a closed military zone and set up road blocks on the approaches to Tukua, south of Bethlehem.

In the village of Beit Sahour on

the road to Tukua, Arab villagers defied a three-day curfew and flocked from their homes to greet the passing Israelis.

"Welcome, welcome to all those who come in a spirit of peace and friendship," said an elderly man.

Troops chased the villagers back into their houses and ordered the peace activists out.

On the outskirts of Tukua, a heavily-armed force of an infantry brigade stopped the motorcade, warned that the entire Bethlehem district was a closed military area and ordered television crews to stop filming.

Asked if the closure was a result of protests in the area, the unit's commander said: "No, nothing at all has happened — only you."

Soldiers and police escorted

the Israelis back towards Jerusalem, passing three more road blocks on the way.

Peace Now members said they would petition Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin for permission to make the visit on another day.

The peace campaigners included Sigal Schwartz whose husband Ruvyen, also a Peace Now supporter, was seriously injured by stone-throwers while on reserve army service in the West Bank village of Beit Safa.

At least 680 Arabs have died in the 21-month-old uprising.

In Falmiya, north of Qalqilya town, villagers found the body of a Palestinian they said had been kidnapped nearly two months ago. It had been dumped in a well.

14 firms ordered closed, 95 held in fat smuggling case

By Mariam Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Amid continuing inquiries into smuggling of unprocessed vegetable oil in polluted sewage trucks which surfaced last week, the government said Saturday it had ordered the closure of 14 confectionaries and related manufacturing plants and announced the arrest of 95 suspects.

An Interior Ministry statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that tests had revealed that the smuggled fat was unfit for human consumption and that progress was made in inquiries into the affair.

The statement, the first government comment on the case, said 345 tonnes of unprocessed oil were confiscated along the sewage trucks which transported them. The factories were ordered closed until further notice after it was found that they had received part of the smuggled fat, it added. The factories involved used to produce biscuits, potato chips and other sweetmeats, it said.

The statement said investigations would continue until all the facts concerning the case were clarified to ensure public health.

As news spread of the smuggling racket, local producers of biscuits and pastries were panic-stricken about the possible effects such news could have on their sales. The panic was evident in heavy advertising which appeared in the front pages of local Arabic dailies assuring consumers about the quality of their products after rumours were circulated in town that some of the well-known manufacturers were involved in the scandal.

Local supermarkets have reported a noticeable fall in the sale of some locally produced pastry products and potato chips in particular.

Said one customer at a supermarket: "Until we know the names of the factories and bakeries that used the oil, all sources are under suspicion. Our health and the health of our families is at stake; this is no game."

The Public Security Department (PSD) and the Ministry of Health declined comment when approached by the Jordan Times to disclose the names of the concerned manufacturers. The Royal Scientific Society (RSS), which usually handles tests on foodstuffs, said it was not contacted for tests related to the case.

Inquiries made by the Jordan Times indicated that the smuggling operations were conducted by what appears to be an "organised gang." Identities of the gang members are yet unknown.

The smuggled fat could have been stolen from consignments reaching Aqaba and destined for Iraq for processing. While all health and related procedures were duly followed by the ships carrying them, the smugglers used sewage trucks to transport the fat to Amman and other areas so as not to arouse suspicion of the authorities. Some of the truck drivers who used to ferry the fat from Aqaba to Iraq are believed to have pumped part of their consignments to sewage trucks at some point between Aqaba and Iraq.

According to shipping sources, about 2,000 tonnes of unprocessed oil were listed as "missing in transit" from the country of origin to Iraq in the last nine months, with an average shortage of five tonnes per truck reaching its final destination in Iraq. The Jordanian customs authorities now put a seal on all trucks before they leave Aqaba in a bid to stem thefts in transit.

It was reported last week in the local press that of the smuggled fat had found its way to restaurants and pastry shops in Amman, Madaba, Zarqa and Qataneh. Raw fat, which looks like petrol or thin oil, is mostly used for making soap. It can be used for human consumption only after complex chemical processing, according to experts.

It is not known yet how much of the total quantity of the oil listed "missing" could have reached the local market or consumers. Doctors said until the exact contents in the smuggled fat are not known, it is difficult to ascertain its long-term or short-term effects on health.

Sharif Zaid, Qasem meet with Abbas
PLO briefs Jordan on political moves

By a Jordan Times
Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Saturday conveyed to the Jordanian government the outcome of talks conducted in Cairo recently between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas met with Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker to brief him on the talks, "which aimed at giving momentum to the peace process in the Middle East and on the PLO's contacts in the international arena to achieve that end," Petra said.

The meeting was attended by PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Razak Al Yahya and Palestinian Ambassador to Jordan Omar Al Khatib.

Earlier in the day, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem met with Abbas, Petra said the PLO official conveyed to Qasem the PLO leadership's appreciation of Jordan's support for Palestinian political moves.

Qasem said Jordan would continue to back the PLO's efforts to

ensure its participation in the peace process to enable the Palestinian people regain its rights.

Abbas, who left Amman later Saturday, told Jordan Television in an interview that Arafat's repeated visits to Cairo were aimed at coordination with President Hosni Mubarak following the intense political activities in the Egyptian capital last week, particularly the visit of Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson.

"The PLO supports (the Egyptian-proposed) Israeli-Palestinian dialogue provided that the Palestinian side is composed of Palestinians living inside the occupied territories as well as those living outside," he said.

However, he added, since the Israeli government "outrightly rejects this condition there is no need to discuss other issues."

Earlier, in comments in reporters after his meeting with Sharif Zaid, Abbas attacked Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir for rejecting Mubarak's 10-point proposal over Israel's plan for elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to choose Palestinian negotiators.

"All of Shamir's efforts are to abrogate any progress towards

peace as he is not convinced in the march of peace," Abbas said.

"Shamir floated his election plan not in order to reach peace but in the hope that he will find hurdles in the path so that nothing happens," he added.

Shamir's rightist Likud party has opposed Egypt's proposals and its offer to host face-to-face talks between Israel and Palestinians, while its coalition partner, the Labour party, reacted favourably to the two suggestions.

Abbas said the fifth round of talks between the United States and the PLO would be held "very soon" though no date had been set.

"We hope to move a step forward... in our next talks with the U.S. as we don't want a dialogue for the sake of dialogue," he said.

"The United States government has to pressure Israel to launch a direct Israeli-Palestinian dialogue to reach a settlement in the Arab-Israeli dispute," Abbas said.

Abbas reiterated the PLO's commitment "to joint political cooperation and coordination with the governments of Jordan and Egypt."

U.S. seen not rejecting PLO stand on talks with Israel

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The U.S. administration is sending consistent signals to the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) suggesting that it does not object to PLO demands that Palestinian representatives from outside the occupied territories be included in a delegation for an initial dialogue with Israel as proposed by Egypt and that no preconditions govern the dialogue, according to informed sources.

If the U.S. signals prove to be a real shift in the American position, PLO sources expect a form of dialogue between Palestinians and Israel on steps to move the peace process forward to begin before the end of the year.

PLO officials maintain that the initiation of such a dialogue will have no bearing whatsoever on the 21-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, as Washington is not referring to this issue at all in its indirect message to the PLO, the sources said. Israel insists that no dialogue, in whatever form or substance, can take place until the uprising is brought to a halt.

The sources expected the American position to be made clear to the PLO during the fifth round of talks between the PLO and U.S. in Tunis this week or the next.

According to the sources, the U.S. "signals" were conveyed through third parties involved in efforts to break the deadlock in peace efforts. In this vein, the PLO sees the current American efforts as motivated by a desire to extract further compromises from the PLO, starting with acceptance of the Israeli plan for

Palestinian elections in the occupied territories.

The PLO official, who is close to the U.S.-PLO dialogue and spoke to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, asserted that Egyptian and European efforts to mediate the stalemate appeared to have borne fruit after the last round of the dialogue, held in Tunis last month. "But, there is yet no proof of American seriousness," he said. "Until we are directly informed through official channels, we have no guarantees," he added.

One of the basic sticking points, according to the sources, was the PLO's stand that it was not enough on the American part to agree that any negotiating team could include Palestinians outside the occupied territories. The organisation maintains that it reserves the right to name the delegation in public.

PLO leaders have repeatedly said that both the U.S. and Israel are trying to create a rift between the Palestinians inside the occupied territories and those in diaspora and that the Israeli plan for elections is aimed at achieving such a goal.

"The plan, which enjoys the support of the U.S., is only a means to delay the inevitable Israeli-Palestinian dialogue," said the official.

According to the official, the initial dialogue will not necessarily focus on elections, but on preparations for peace talks under U.N. supervision.

"Our position is clear. We are not against starting talks with Israel, but any talks should be in the framework of United Nations supervision. The first step of the dialogue could involve the U.S.

and the Soviet Union, or the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council," he said.

Once Israel accepts the idea of sitting down to talk to the party directly involved in the conflict, the Palestinians, other arrangements could be reached, not necessarily involving all U.N. Security Council permanent members, he added.

The Israeli position depends on how far the American administration is willing to push for this meeting. There is already a split between the Likud and Labour parties over the issue of the Palestinian delegation. Palestinian sources believe that the split will deepen to break "national unity" coalition government. Israeli analysts say that Labour might try to form a new coalition excluding the Likud if the right-wing bloc refused to shift from its rejectionist position.

But, on the Palestinian side, the PLO believes that "the ball is in the American court now. Any progress has to come from their side now," said a Palestinian source. "However, the PLO is taking the new U.S. signals seriously and awaiting formal confirmation of the American position."

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has reportedly sought European support for Egypt's two-pointed approach to Israel; a 10-point modification of the Israeli election plan and an offer to host Israeli-Palestinian talks. Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said after talks with President Hosni Mubarak in Cairo last week that he had accepted the proposal for dialogue but the two leaders did not agree on the composition of the delegation.

Superpowers agree to ease nuclear tensions

JACKSON HOLE, Wyoming (Agencies) — The United States and the Soviet Union announced agreement Saturday on measures towards easing superpower nuclear tensions and made a first step towards seeking a global ban on chemical weapons.

A State Department fact sheet said the two sides made an agreement in principle on trial verification of strategic arms arsenals before a strategic arms reduction

treaty (START) is approved.

They also agreed on a two-phased accord on chemical weapons, first exchanging information on stocks and allowing visits to relevant military and civil facilities.

The second stage would allow an exchange on the sides' chemical weapons capabilities and on site inspections to help verify stocks.

The moves toward improved

superpower relations were among a batch of accords the United States and the Soviet Union were expected to sign later Saturday on the second and final day of talks between U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at a secluded mountain resort in the western United States.

The foreign ministers were concluding their talks at the rocky mountain lodge Saturday amid high expectations that they would set a target date for a summit between President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The foreign secretaries also made progress towards several other arms control agreements they were expected to sign before heading to New York Sunday for a U.N. General Assembly meeting.

A senior U.S. official, speaking on condition that he not be further identified, said the Soviet agreement to separate negotiations on the space-based missile defence system and a strategic arms reduction treaty breaks a four-year deadlock.

Many lesser points of disagreement remain in the proposed 450-page START agreement, but resolution of the space defence issue could accelerate negotiations on a pact to reduce superpower nuclear arsenals by 30 per cent to 50 per cent, the official said.

Thatcher pledges full support for perestroika

MOSCOW (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher pledged strong support for the Soviet reform process Saturday and declared her faith in President Mikhail Gorbachev's ability to lead the country to economic prosperity.

Thatcher told a news conference after four hours of talks with the Kremlin leader that the meeting was another milestone in the dialogue between them since 1984.

"During that period, enormous changes have taken place in the Soviet Union, leading to greater political liberty and the prospect of real prosperity for the ordinary people," she said.

Referring to Gorbachev's "perestroika" programme for political, social and economic re-

newal, she said it had gone "far further and faster than any of us had imagined."

"I wanted to express my very strong support for the historic changes which are taking place in the Soviet Union under his leadership," she said.

Thatcher's note of optimism comes at a time when Gorbachev faces swelling popular discontent over his failure to revive the flagging Soviet economy which has left the country bereft of food and many basic goods.

Thatcher said Gorbachev had briefed her in detail about the coming parliamentary session starting Monday. Much of that session will be devoted to plans to reduce the budget deficit and boost food and consumer goods production.

Proof emerges of bomb blast aboard UTA plane

PARIS (Agencies) — Proof began to emerge Saturday, as experts decoded the doomed plane's flight recorders, that a bomb blew apart a French DC-10 over the Sahara.

Evidence began filtering out Friday night when the French Transport Ministry revealed that investigators at the isolated desert crash site believed there had been explosives on board Flight UT 772.

Preliminary studies of the cockpit voice and electronic data recorders, flown to Paris for expert examination, confirmed Saturday

what was already suspected — that a sudden explosion sent the plane and 170 people hurtling out of the sky.

"Examination (of the recorder) shows that the flight was proceeding normally, then there was a total blackout indicating a mid-flight explosion," the ministry spokeswoman told Reuters.

A civil aviation team is studying the cockpit recording of conversations between the pilot and crew while the digital data recorder is being decoded by military aviation experts.

The DC-10, on a flight from

Brazzaville, Congo, to Marseille and Paris, blew up over Niger shortly after taking off from Chad's N'djamena airport Tuesday.

A previously unknown group calling itself the Secret Chadian Resistance Saturday claimed responsibility for the bombing. "The struggle will continue until the complete withdrawal of all military colonial forces from Africa," a statement signed by the group said.

The statement, delivered to the Beirut office of a Western news agency, did not elaborate.

Tunisian political year looks hotter than usual

By Jonathan Wright
Reuters

TUNIS — Rumours about Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche's future, cabinet differences over economic policy and impatience among Islamic militants threaten a heated Tunisian political year.

"A backlog of problems has come to a head — the role of Baccouche, the future of the economic adjustment programme and how to deal with the Islamic opposition. There doesn't seem to be a consensus on how to proceed," one commentator said.

Liberals are asking impatiently whether the trend towards an open multiparty system has run its course.

Rashed Ghannouchi, the Islamic activist who should arguably be the leader of the opposition, has gone into voluntary exile. His many followers at home wait on in political limbo.

Price rises on subsidised foodstuffs in August have angered the poor. Businessmen moan that government is still cramping their style.

The government looks off balance and several attempts to clear the air have only added to the confusion.

Official sources have denied there are disagreements within the cabinet but the public percep-

tion, expressed in the usually cautious press, is that something is seriously amiss.

"The rumours storm may have abated... but no one can help but draw an important conclusion — that the government is riven by major differences over economic policy," the independent newspaper *Al Sahab* said recently.

Baccouche, prime minister since President Zine Abidine Ben Ali replaced Habib Bourguiba in November 1987, has been at the centre of both the rumours and the economic debate.

When he took an unexpected holiday in Europe last week after his government's rigid monetarist policies were questioned, it was not certain he would return to work, political sources said.

He did come back but the rumours and the denials continued.

Planning and Finance Minister Mohammad Ghannouchi, in an apparent bid to quash the rumours, then restated Tunisia's commitment to the 1986 economic adjustment programme.

The programme envisages strict control of deficits, cuts in public works projects, liberalisation of imports and gradual privatisation of state-owned companies.

Baccouche has suggested more

state investment to create jobs and has played down the significance of deficits. He has also tried to distance himself from the price rises on bread, milk, sugar and other basic foods, political sources said.

Baccouche's spokesman and the manager of the ruling party newspaper *Le Renaissance* lost their jobs, adding to uncertainties.

The *Sabah* editorial, without naming Baccouche, ridiculed the type of economic policies he was advocating.

"We have only two choices, either to start producing and living within the country's means or to set out on another path, which may have a certain popular appeal, but the price for which we will have to pay in the near future," it said.

"The (economic adjustment) programme has become the subject of a debate which is dangerous for the country's future... This cannot help but have a negative effect on the economy, (leading to) hesitation in deciding to invest, for example," it added.

Ben Ali has put off a decision on legal recognition of Rashed Ghannouchi's *Nahdha* (renaissance) Movement. In April elections it emerged as the country's second political force.

The authorities rejected the



movement's first application for legalisation in June on the grounds that the leaders still had criminal record for offences under Bourguiba.

A general amnesty bill passed the same month should have removed this obstacle but *Nahdha* Movement leaders say the civil service has yet to put the bill into effect.

When Algeria recognised an Islamic political party last week, it increased the pressure on Tunisia to follow suit.

Acting leader of the *Nahdha* Movement Sheikh Abdelkader Mouron told Reuters last week: "People are... worried that the current situation might lead to... an explosion."

Kuwaiti emir arrives in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — Kuwait's ruler Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah arrived in Baghdad Saturday at the start of a foreign tour that will take him on to Europe and Africa.

Official sources said that during his three-day visit to Iraq the emir would "explore ways of consolidating fraternal relations between the two countries and discuss Arab issues, notably the Lebanese situation."

Asked whether the question of demarcation of the Kuwait-Iraqi border would be raised, an official said: "The visit is a courtesy one and will not touch on the border issue."

The situation in the Gulf is also likely to be discussed. Kuwait backed Iraq during the eight-year-long Gulf war but Tehran-Kuwait relations have recently been upgraded.

After visiting Iraq, the emir will travel to France, Guinea, Mali and Niger.

The sources said the Paris visit, beginning Monday, would cover expanding economic and cultural relations and the Middle East situation.

Kuwaiti Defence Minister



Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah

Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmad Al Sabah told Kuwait's *Al Anha* newspaper that Sheikh Jaber would discuss "questions of joint interest, especially those of importance to the Third World," with French President Francois Mitterrand.

Asked whether military issues would be raised, he said: "This is improbable during the visit, especially as the Defence Ministry will not be represented at the talks."

An Arab diplomat in Baghdad said Iraq would publicly show gratitude for Kuwait's normal and heavy financial support during its eight-year war with Iran, which ended last year.

Kuwait and Saudi Arabia were Iraq's main source of finance to fight the war against Iran.

Iran denies part in Mecca blasts

NICOSIA (R) — Iran denied Saturday any involvement in explosions in Mecca in July for which Saudi Arabia publicly beheaded 16 Kuwaitis.

The Foreign Ministry statement was the first official reaction from Tehran to televised confessions by two of the bombers implicating the Iranian embassy in Kuwait.

The explosions killed a Pakistani pilgrim and injured 16 other people during the annual Muslim pilgrimage — Haj — to Mecca.

The Saudis executed the 16 convicted bombers — all Shi'ite Muslims and 10 of them Persian origin — Thursday. Three other Kuwaitis were sentenced to prison terms and lashings and nine were acquitted.

"Iran is convinced that the recent explosions in the sanctuary of divine peace were carried out by mercenaries working for the Saudi regime..." Tehran Radio quoted the ministry spokesman as saying.

One of the executed Kuwaitis said on Saudi television he had received explosives from the Iranian embassy in Kuwait. Another convicted bomber said two embassy officials had trained the group.

"The programme shown on Saudi television gave the names of two people who were said to be employed at the Iranian embassy

in Kuwait, said to have supplied the incendiary material to those accused of planting bombs in Holy Mecca.

"However, those people were never employed in the Iranian embassy in Kuwait, and the Kuwaiti government is fully aware of this," Tehran Radio quoted the ministry spokesman as saying.

There has been no official reaction from Kuwait.

Lebanon's pro-Iranian Hizbollah Movement Friday threatened vengeance against Saudi Arabia over the executions.

Hizbollah is believed to hold some of the kidnapped Westerners missing in Lebanon, and has also been connected in French reports to an apparent explosion which destroyed a French airliner with 170 passengers and crew over the Sahara desert Tuesday.

Relations between Tehran and the Gulf states plummeted during the eight-year Iran-Iraq war in which the Arabs supported Baghdad.

Saudi Arabia broke off relations with Iran in April 1988, accusing Tehran of "enemy-like" activities.

Fighting in the Iran-Iraq war was halted by a ceasefire in August last year and Tehran has recently moved to improve ties with its Gulf neighbours.

Algerian government change aims at spurring reforms

By Michael Goldsmith
Associated Press

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Two hundred fifty Algerians were lined up at a kiosk in front of Algiers' Central Post Office waiting to buy their ration of two packages of cigarettes.

"It's scandalous," said Ahmad Hamoud, a government employee waiting in line. "Such shortages exist only in people's democracies, and we haven't been one of those for 12 years now."

Similar shortages occur occasionally in bread, gasoline, batteries, soap, milk and other necessities. In the case of cigarettes, Hamoud could stand in line again for two more packs if he had a couple of hours to kill.

Many Algerians blame the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) for shortages reminiscent of the Communist world. But some pin the blame more directly on former Premier Kasbi Merbah, fired Sept. 9 by President Chadli Benjedid for holding up

his reform programme.

The reforms were initiated last October after the army put down an uprising in the major cities that left hundreds dead. Many army leaders felt that such a widespread outbreak of rioting and looting displayed a deep-seated dissatisfaction with the way the party was running the country.

Scattered acts of rioting continue all over Algeria. The city halls of Ain Azel, near Setif; Benyane and Djellahine, near Algiers; and Boufarik, near Blida, have been stormed recently by crowds demanding housing and accusing the mayors of corruption and favouritism. Intermittent strikes to demand higher wages have paralysed industrial enterprises everywhere.

Benjedid, an FLN member who nevertheless has led the effort to move Algeria away from a totally party-dominated state, had been quietly working since his first election 10 years ago to purge the army leadership of those suspected of sympathising

with the ruling party.

Diplomatic observers believe the army — which used to tell the party what to do — is now solidly behind Benjedid's reform efforts.

But the party is not so easily transformed. For nearly two decades, it held exclusive power under the government of President Houari Boumedienne, who died in 1978. Its estimated 100,000 employees still control every aspect of Algerian life from parliament and the giant national corporations to village councils and local football teams.

After last year's rioting, Benjedid imposed a far-reaching reform programme that allowed the creation of new parties to the right and the left of the FLN, the freeing of the Algerian press and radio from rigid party control, and the introduction of private-enterprise corporations with the help of foreign capital.

With a nationwide referendum showing acceptance of the reforms in principle, a government was needed to implement them

and persuade the all-FLN National Assembly to approve them.

Merbah, chosen as premier, had been head of the military security service and had served as minister of health, industry and agriculture.

Benjedid soon discovered, however, that Merbah lacked the will to put the reforms through parliament. Out of idealism or for personal reasons, Merbah found the pace of change too rapid and systematically held up legislation Benjedid wanted.

In particular, he failed to seek approval for any legislation to open the Algerian economy to private corporations, free the Algerian press or stamp out the widespread corruption.

A few newspapers close to Benjedid dared to criticise the premier.

"Without the vigilance of the president," said the weekly *Algerie-Actualite*, "the Algerian press would today be a chorus of systematic lying."

Algerie-Actualite accused Merbah of deliberately keeping

the text of the new constitution from the public and out of schools and universities. This enabled him to claim that only the national assembly had the power to dismiss him. He briefly defied Benjedid and said he would remain in his post as long as the assembly had not endorsed the president's decision.

But the constitution states clearly that the president "names the prime minister and puts an end to his functions." Following a brief constitutional tussle, Merbah had to withdraw. He and his FLN friends remain busy behind the scene describing Benjedid as "a traitor to his country."

Benjedid named the secretary-general of the presidency, Monclaud Hamrouche, to succeed Merbah as premier.

Hamrouche announced the members of his new cabinet who were largely known Western-oriented technocrats. Most prominent among them was Sid Ahmad Ghazali, the former head of Sonatrach, the gas and oil monopoly, who became foreign



Chadli Benjedid

minister. The ministries of information, culture, tourism and veterans affairs were abolished to trim down the government.

Hamrouche's first challenge will come on Oct. 5, the first anniversary of the outbreak of last year's rioting. There are widespread fears of new unrest.

New Kabul mayor seeks justice after rehabilitation

By Bill Tarrant
Reuters

KABUL — Abdul Karim Misaq, newly appointed mayor of Kabul, has come to the fore again after surviving setbacks and hard times in the turbulent world of Afghan politics.

Misaq, a short-story writer, was jailed first by deposed King Zahir Shah and then by the Soviet-backed Communist government.

President Najibullah brought Misaq, a founder of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), out of political oblivion and appointed him mayor of the Afghan capital last month.

Given a second chance as a rehabilitated Marxist revolutionary, Misaq now wants some belated justice.

"A group of people were harmed after the December 1979 event. It's a problem that needs to be tackled on the basis of the

constitution of the party and I'm in the category of people that were harmed," 50-year-old Misaq told foreign reporters at his office in the Kabul municipality building.

The "December 1979 event" refers to the intervention by Soviet forces in Afghanistan to prop up the regime of President Bahrat Karmal, now in exile in the Soviet Union.

Misaq was finance minister in the government of a rival faction of the PDPA which Karmal overthrew. He spent the next two years in jail or under house arrest.

Speaking with a candour rarely heard in Kabul's corridors of power, Misaq said the Soviet withdrawal of the last of its 110,000 troops in February "not only helps in my case but also in many other spheres."

"We cannot hide the fact that the coming of the Soviet troops to Afghanistan created a number of problems," said Misaq, who was

also stripped of his party membership and spent the following years jobless, writing short stories.

His return to political life follows moves by Najibullah to rehabilitate old party stalwarts in his self-styled policy of national reconciliation.

Once an orthodox Marxist-Leninist party, the PDPA now claims to be Islamic, nationalist and all for multi-party democracy.

Misaq was a victim of a party split that dates almost from the party's foundation in 1965 when King Zahir Shah ruled Afghanistan.

The split reflected the blood debts and vendettas embedded in Afghan society and which continue today in the feuds and intrigues of both the Mujahideen rebels fighting Najibullah's government and Afghanistan's Marxist revolutionaries, diplomats say.

The splits have helped prolong

Afghanistan's 11-year civil war but the Soviet withdrawal has helped the PDPA to begin to heal old wounds, they add.

"When the Soviets left, the party had one simple consideration — a battle to survive," said one Asian diplomat. "There is a strong basis in Afghan society for reconciling the irreconcilable."

"Throughout their history they have fought tribal and clan wars only to say in the end 'all right the blood debt is over'."

Najibullah must ensure unity in the PDPA before thinking about negotiating a future coalition government with Islamic fundamentalists and a minority who would like to see the king return.

"When you look at a scenario where you bring in other groups in the game, a unified PDPA is clearly a better player than a PDPA split down the middle," the diplomat said.

Misaq, who for a long time was a member of the party Central

Committee, remembers Najibullah "when he was a competent rank and file party cadre." He said he wants the party to reconcile with him and other members of his faction.

"The first step is waiting for the good will and understanding from the leadership," Misaq added.

The party split was between the urban middle class Parcham faction and the rural-based Khalq group. Karmal was in the Parcham faction, as was Najibullah. Misaq was a Khalq leader. The two groups formally separated in the early 1970s.

The Khalqis took power first during the revolution of April, 1978, which overthrew the republican government of Daud Khan, who had deposed the king five years earlier.

After 20 months of intrigue, political murder and the start of the civil war with Islamic parties, Soviet troops arrived.

The day after the Soviet invasion, Khalq leader and Afghan President Hafizullah Amin was found dead in the presidential palace with a bullet in his head.

Najibullah, formerly the head of Khalq, Afghanistan's secret service, pushed aside Karmal in 1986 with Moscow's blessing. He now seems intent on restoring party unity.

In June he brought back Karmal's brother, Mahmood Baryalai, to be first deputy prime minister.

Baryalai, purged and jailed in 1987, told foreign reporters recently: "there is a lot of pluralism in the world and differences arise. This is our inner party issue. I think it is better to speak less of differences than unity."

"Only those who do not do anything do not make mistakes," said Misaq. "Obviously, the party made mistakes, but that means it's alive and doing something."

"We have a saying: As long as a friend is alive, the dialogue goes on."

JORDAN TELEVISION	
Tel: 77311-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:45	Programme review
16:15	Children programme
17:10	Football
17:15	News summary in Arabic
18:00	Local programme
18:45	Give Me a Break
19:15	Local programme
19:40	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:00	Programme review
21:30	Local programme
22:00	Varied programme
22:30	News summary in Arabic
PROGRAMME TWO	
17:30	Le monde magique chantal gary
18:00	Loft story
18:30	Perfecto
19:00	News in French
19:15	Doune France
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Varied programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	You can't take it with you
21:10	Doc "Battle Line"
22:00	News in English
22:30	The Equiser
PRAYER TIMES	
05:03	Fajr
06:30	Sunrise (Source)
12:28	Dhuhr
15:25	Asr

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

AMMAN

17 / 32

Aqaba

24 / 38

Desert

19 / 36

Jordan Valley

22 / 37

Min./max. temp.

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 33, Aqaba 25. Humidity readings: Amman 28 per cent, Aqaba 35 per cent.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Abdul Wahab Awad 746070

Dr. Ali As'ad 879199

Dr. Fayer Jallouqa 624207

Dr. Khalid Mu'adi 743500

Firas pharmacy 661912

Ferdows pharmacy 778336

Al Asena pharmacy 637025

Nainulrah pharmacy 624672

Al Salan pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shameisani pharmacy 637660

REED:

Dr. Shihdeh Al Zagh 624207

Al Sharan's pharmacy 637660

ZARQA:

Dr. Ghaleb Abu 'Eida 985417

Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Rescue 192, 621111, 637777

Rescue Police 891228

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 843402

Traffic Police 863490

Public Security Department 68021

Hotel Complaints 603800

Price Complaints 661176

Water and Sewerage 891467

Complaints 891467

Amman Municipality 787111

Telephone Information 121

Directory assistance 010230

Overseas Calls 623101

Central Amman Telephone 661101

Repairs 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 773111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power 636381

Company 08-53200

RJ Flight Information 08-53200

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalid Maternity, J. Ama. 64281/6

Akheh Maternity, J. Ama. 64241/2

Jabal Amman Maternity 64262

Mallhas, J. Amman 664171/4

Palestine, Shamsani 664171/4

Shameisani Hospital 669131

University Hospital 843845

Al-Musaber Hospital 667227/9

The Islamic, Abdali 666121/7

Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6

Italian, Al-Musaber 77101/3

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775112/6

Army, Marka 891611/15

Queen Alia Hospital 60240/50

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071

Tin Shin Hospital (09)983732

IRBID:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272725

Dea Al Nafees Hospital (02)247100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (09)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)5200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

10:10 Jeddah (RU)

10:10 Kuwait (RU)

10:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RU)

10:45 Doha, Bahrain (RU)

11:15 Cairo, Aqaba (RU)

11:15 New York, Amsterdam (RU)

12:20 Paris (RU)

12:20 Chicago, Vienna (RU)

12:20 Brussels, Frankfurt (RU)

13:30 London (RU)

13:30 Helsinki, Aqaba (RU)

20:45 Rome (RU)

20:45 Madrid, Geneva (RU)

01:15 Baghdad (RU)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

05:20 Dubai (AZ)

10:20 Cairo (MS)

11:25 Sharjah, Doha (GF)

14:30 Kuwait (KU)

14:45 Jeddah (SV)

15:20 Benghazi (add.) (LV)

15:40 Algeria (OA)

23:55 Frankfurt (LH)

01:05 London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:00 Aqaba, Helsinki (RU)

11:45 Rome (RU)

12:20 Tunis, Casablanca (RU)

12:30 Istanbul, Vienna (RU)

13:45 Cairo, Aqaba (RU)

20:40 Kuwait (RU)

21:00 Larnaca (RU)

21:15 Dubai (RU)

21:20 Baghdad (RU)

21:20 Cairo (RU)

21:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RU)

22:15 Damascus (RU)

22:15 Calcutta, Bangkok (RU)

22:20 Cairo (RU)

22:40 Doha, Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RU)

Durra gets post at Royal Court

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal Decree was issued Saturday appointing Mr. Muzir Al Durra as secretary general of the Royal Court. Before assuming this post Durra had served in a number of other government positions, the last of which was director general of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation, a post which is now filled by Mr. Radi Alkhatib who had served as head engineer for the corporation.

Also Saturday, the council of ministers accepted the resignation of Dr. Fawwaz Abul Ghannam who had served as advisor at the Prime Ministry. A statement said that Abul Ghannam will leave his post on Oct. 1, 1989 to run as candidate for the coming parliamentary elections on Nov. 8.

Schools to have 2-day weekend as of Oct. 5

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Almost 90 per cent of schools in Jordan will have an extra day off on the weekend as of Oct. 5, the Ministry of Education said Saturday.

As a result of a survey conducted by the Ministry of Education, a decision has been taken to grant one-shift schools an extra day off on the weekend — Thursdays and Fridays — according to a senior official in the ministry. The survey consisted of a questionnaire, distributed in random to government school students, parents, teachers and principals, in addition to the opinion columns in the daily newspapers that dealt with the subject, said Dr. Mohammad Obeidat, head of the Examinations Department at the Ministry of Education.

"The survey concluded that 80 per cent of the people were in favour of the two-day weekend," Obeidat told the Jordan Times. "Most of them preferred the extra day to be Thursday and not Saturday."

About 2,300 one-shift government schools will have Thursday off and the classes of that day will be redistributed among the remaining days of the week, he said.

The survey took into consideration the economic, social and

educational feasibility and concluded with a strong positive reaction that was in favour of the extra holiday.

According to the study and from the economic angle, this will help in rationing water, electricity and the pocket money the students get for that day. It will also help in easing traffic jams and morning-rush hours.

"Thursdays will be dedicated to school outings, educational and cultural activities, so that students will not lose school days," Obeidat said, adding that "it will also enable them to have more time for extra curricular activities either outside or inside schools."

The survey addressed 156 students, teachers, parents and principals. Teachers and principals composed 60 per cent of the total number, students about 21 per cent and parents' nearly 18 per cent.

Another study is to be conducted on the feasibility of applying the five-day week on the remaining 250 two-shift schools, Obeidat said, noting that they compile only 10 per cent of schools in the Kingdom.

"Private schools are to be given a choice to either continue having Sundays off, (as it is a religious holiday), or to switch to Thursdays," he said.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

ROYAL VISIT: His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Saturday visited the prime minister and conferred for some time with Prime Minister Shafiq Zaid Ibn Shaker. (Petra)

SENTENCED: The military court has sentenced Sa'di Abdullah Hassan Hamad to two years imprisonment and the payment of JD 1,500 fine for the possession of drugs. The military governor endorsed the sentence. (Petra)

UNESCO CONFERENCE: The Cabinet Saturday approved the composition of the Jordanian delegation to the four-week meetings of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) conference due to convene in Paris Oct. 17. The delegation will be led by Minister of Education Dr. Adnan Badran. (Petra)

ASSAD RECEIVES INDIAN ENVOY: Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nassereddin Assad Saturday received Indian Ambassador to Jordan K. Gajendra Singh. The discussions dealt with means to develop and promote bilateral relations. (Petra)

CONTEST FOR CHILDREN: The Arab Artists Federation will conduct a pan-Arab contest for children entitled "My Great Homeland." The contest includes drawing, short stories and poetry for children under sixteen. The contest will be held annually in an Arab country. (Petra)

ORPHANS FUND: The Orphans Fund has prepared a plan to invest funds belonging to more than 30,000 orphans in the Kingdom with the purpose of increasing the fund's income that benefits the Jordanian orphans themselves, according to the fund's director, Abdul Salam Al-Abbadi. Addressing a meeting of the directors of the fund's branches in the provinces, Al-Abbadi said that his organisation was keen on developing the funds which are increasing day by day and also is interested in productive projects that can also be of benefit to Jordan. Al-Abbadi was talking following his return to Amman from a three-day meeting in Jeddah to discuss economic issues in the Islamic World. Al-Abbadi presented a working paper to the meeting dealing with Islamic economy and held talks with the Jeddah-based Islamic Development Bank. (Petra)

JREISAT TO HEAD TEAM IN DAMASCUS TALKS: Jordan is opening talks in Damascus Sunday aimed at launching Syrian-Jordanian cooperation in oil exploration and energy utilisation. A statement here said that a delegation from the Natural Resources Authority (NRA), which is responsible for gas and oil exploration operations in the Kingdom, will arrive in the Syrian capital Sunday to open negotiations with Syrian officials from the ministry of minerals and petroleum expected to culminate in the conclusion of a number of agreements on bilateral cooperation. Jordan, which produces sizeable amounts of gas from the Risha Field near the Iraqi border, is seeking to intensify its efforts in search for oil with the help of Arab and foreign companies. The delegation to go to Damascus Sunday comprises NRA Director General Kamal Jreisat and two NRA senior officials. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An Indian photographic exhibition — "Jawahar Lal Nehru, His Life and Times" — at the Students Activities Complex, University of Jordan. Opens today at 12 noon.
- ★ An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Omar Boud at Irbid's Young Women's Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition, with video shows and booklets, on the history of the Monarchy in Sweden at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ A photo exhibition by French artist Jean-Noel de Soye displaying photos projecting fashion accessories such as jewelry, caps, scarves and belts, at the French Cultural Centre (the exhibition also displays slides on the history of fashion).
- ★ A plastic art exhibition by Mohammad Al-Barbari and Fadwa Jalal at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

FILM

- ★ A feature film entitled "Ragtime" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday opens a regional symposium in Amman (Petra photo)

New ministry unit to market Jordanian products abroad

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Industry and Trade's Jordan Commercial Centres Corporation (JCCC) Saturday announced its intention to serve as an agent for Jordanian exporters, helping them to market their products abroad.

A statement said that the JCCC's board has decided to create a special unit to take up this mission upon the request of Jordanian companies.

The unit will receive samples and specifications from the manufacturers and the quoted prices for each commodity and then will

try to find markets for the products through direct contacts abroad, the statement noted. The board chairman, Mohammad Saqqaf, said that the unit is bound to help increase the volume of Jordanian exports.

Saqqaf also noted that the ministry will charge fees for its efforts only after the conclusion of any transaction.

Also Saturday, the Ministry of Industry and Trade set up a technical committee to conduct a survey of all factories in the Kingdom.

The purpose of the committee is to determine which factory possesses primary materials that could endanger public safety such as the leakage of poisonous gas. The decision came after the gas leakage in a Zarga factory which resulted in the poisoning of more than 100 people.

The committee has been charged with the task of coordinating its work with the concerned parties to conduct searches for materials, ensure all matters related to public safety and to submit periodic reports on all types of factories in the country.

NRA, Czech institution to conduct restoration work at Karak Castle

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Natural Resources Authority (NRA) and the Czechoslovak Strojexport Institution will next month embark on a joint effort to carry out restoration and maintenance work at the dilapidated parts of the ancient Karak Castle, in southern Jordan, according to an agreement signed by the two sides in Amman Saturday.

A statement said that work on the project will start before the end of next month and that NRA engineers, and specialists as well as experts from the Department of Antiquities will supervise the restoration of the ancient site.

The project, undertaken by the NRA's Engineering Geological Studies Division is estimated to cost \$972,000, two-thirds of which will be provided by the Jordanian government while the remaining cost will be covered by the Czech government, according to the agreement which noted that Jordan's private sector will provide in-kind assistance to the project.

The agreement said that the project will be completed in two years' time, from now. An NRA statement said that since 1987 its teams have been conducting engineering geological studies to explore the dangers to which the ancient city of Karak has been subjected.

Such studies included detailed geological and geophysical surveys and drilling work to identify the engineering properties of the formations on which Karak Castle had been built, the statement added.

The agreement was signed by NRA Director General Kamal Jreisat and the Czech institution's representative in Amman Tibor Trnaja.



Accord on audio-visual aids

AMMAN — Al Quds open university Saturday signed an agreement with the Jordan Company for Television, Radio and Cinema Production under which the latter will produce audio-visual aids required for teaching programmes at the Amman-based university. University President Munther Salah, who signed the agreement with the company's General Manager Jawad Maraqa, said that the agreement marks the beginning of preparations of educational and training courses which will involve the use of audiovisual materials, computerised programmes and laboratory kits. Salah said that the university seeks to open its doors as soon as possible. (J.T.)



The Central Business District in Salt

RSS conducting Salt business district implementation plan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is currently conducting the Salt Central Business District implementation plan for Salt Development Corporation.

The plan is designed to perform a field survey of buildings with architectural heritage, to preserve and restore the incomparable fabric of old Salt, to launch touristic development projects, such as museums or hotels, as well as studying organisational regulations and laws related to preservation of old build-

ings. This plan is undertaken by a team of RSS architects and economic researchers, Jordanian legal consultants, as well as British experts.

The first stage of the plan has been completed. It dealt with a field survey, an architectural and economic analysis, as well as launching pioneer projects related to studying the Salt Central Business District and considering the chances to convert certain buildings into museums, hotels,

and restaurants, as well as developing the souk area.

Representatives of the Salt Development Corporation, foreign experts, and the working team held an expanded meeting recently and reviewed the proposed projects. They agreed to launch a workshop once the plan ends, to explain the results to be reached to the concerned parties.

The plan, financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development, was launched in mid-1988 and is expected to last towards the end of 1989.

Conference on directing Arab women towards vocational training opens

Princess Basma calls for women's involvement in services and production

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Saturday opened a regional symposium with a call on authorities responsible for education in Jordan and the Arab World to open the way for young Arab women to be involved more and more in services projects and the commodity production sector.

"Educational programmes in the Arab World have so far been dedicated to providing women with theoretical and academic training and information, with little attention being given to the practical side which could involve women in socio-economic development," the Princess said at the opening of the conference on directing young women in the Arab World towards vocational training.

The Arab region, she said, has witnessed a noticeable pace of development in education and vocational training over the past few decades "which were reflected on socio-economic development, and opened only part of the way for training young women in a number of trades."

"What is required," Princess Basma said, "is more attention to the role of women in providing the needs of the local labour markets. Arab women should not be given only those jobs with

traditional nature."

Princess Basma, who is chairperson of the Queen Alia Jordan Social Welfare Fund's (QAF) board of trustees, said that the current symposium is being held at an important stage of Arab social and economic development, and when the Arab World is in dire need of advanced programmes of vocational training which should involve young women at all levels.

"Any development plans in the Arab World ought to take into consideration the role of productive women who, apart from participating in useful work for their society, can earn additional income for their families and improve their standard of living," Princess Basma added.

Dr. Haifa Abu Ghazaleh, director of the Student Affairs Department at the Ministry of Education, told the meeting which was organised by the Amman-based regional office of the

United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), that the ministry was concerned to a great extent with the preparation of all young citizens for a practical and productive life.

The Ministry of Education is now directing much of its attention towards vocational training for both men and women, and is involving vocational training with academic programmes at the school level, Abu Ghazaleh noted.

UNESCO's office director, Dr. Mohammad Ibrahim Kazem, noted in a speech that the organisation has been directing its attention to the development of women and to involve them in rural and urban development.

"Any positive change in the standard of women is bound to yield good results, benefiting the whole society," Kazem said.

According to the UNESCO office here, the delegates from Jordan and other Arab countries will review working papers on modern trends in providing vocational training, the role of the media and information services to direct women's attention towards trades, and the role of educational and social organisations in this respect.

Winter tourism season to start

AQABA (J.T.) — The winter tourism season in Aqaba opens with the beginning of the coming month with the weekly arrival of 700 tourists from Europe, according to a statement by the tourism department here.

The statement said that five plane loads of tourists will begin arriving in the port city for their holiday as of the beginning of October.

The Royal Jordanian, the national airline, last year organised two-weekly trips from Helsinki, in Finland, directly to Aqaba during the past winter

season; and tourist officials said that the flights could be increased in view of the rising demand on such weekly visits.

The announcement did not specify the European countries sending tourists to Jordan in the coming season, but Finland is expected to be among those countries.

Last year, Jordan was visited by 600,000 tourists earning the country some JD 230 million, according to Tourism Minister Yawal Hikmat.

The minister said in a statement in July that last year's visi-

tors increased in number by 28 per cent over those that came to the Kingdom in 1987.

Under a 1987 agreement, Royal Jordanian has taken the responsibility of marketing Jordan's attractions abroad through their offices in the five continents.

Apart from bringing in groups of tourists, the offices have been organising the distribution of posters, booklets and other information material in the course of tourist promotional programmes abroad.

Amman to host housing conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) and the Housing Corporation will open a three-day conference in Amman on Oct. 1, 1989 on housing and development.

Corporation Director General Youssef Hiyasat said the three-day conference will be attended by delegates from 10 Arab states and representatives of regional and international organisations who will review 12 working papers on housing and socio-economic development.

Hiyasat, who has been appointed as head of the conference's preparatory committee, said that the conference will help the delegates to exchange views and expertise and enrich their knowledge about housing and de-

velopment affairs. He said that the following ministries and departments from Jordan have been invited to take part in the conference which is being organised to mark the Arab Housing Day: The Ministries of Planning, Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment and Social Development, as well as the Urban Development Department, the Jordan Valley Authority, the Greater Amman Municipality, the Royal Scientific Society, the University of Jordan, the Housing Bank, the Military Housing Corporation and the Jordanian Society of Investors in the Housing Sector.

"Jordan will present a working paper on integrated development and housing," Hiyasat added. The Jordanian paper, Hiyasat noted, presents a comprehensive review of a national housing strategy which was endorsed by the Cabinet here towards the end of last year, and has since been adopted as a set of standing directives for the housing sector in the Kingdom.

Hiyasat, who has been appointed as head of the conference's preparatory committee, said that the conference will help the delegates to exchange views and expertise and enrich their knowledge about housing and de-

Committee to study water situation in south

AMMAN (Petra) — The Higher Agricultural Council has set up a committee from the ministries of Agriculture and Water and Irrigation to conduct a study on the water situation in the southern parts of the Kingdom.

The study will help assess the water requirements for the existing projects and schemes to be set up there in the future, according to a council statement Thursday.

The council, which met under the chairmanship of Agriculture Minister Bassam Al Saket, decided that there will be no further expansion in agricultural areas in the south and that the Ministry of Agriculture will stop issuing licences for drilling artesian wells until the newly formed committee has completed its work in southern Jordan's regions.

The decision was taken in view of the continuous drain on water resources, especially in the Shobak region, according to the council statement.

It said that the council also set up another committee chaired by Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani to conduct a study on the development of the badia region in Jordan, especially in the course of implementing the Hamad Basin project in the eastern parts of the country.

The statement said that the Hamad basin could help create a nucleus for the process of national badia development in the Kingdom.

ALGERIAN OFFICERS VISIT CENTRE: A delegation of Algerian officers Saturday visited Nazek Hariri Special Training Centre for the Handicapped and were briefed on its activities. The Algerian officers are the guests of the Royal Jordanian Armed Forces. (Petra)

163 BALLOT BOXES IN BALQA: Balqa Governor Faleh Gharaibeh has decided to assign 163 ballot boxes at polling centres in various parts of the governorate for the upcoming parliamentary election. He also called on citizens to check with election centres in order to receive their voting cards. (Petra)

Arab surgeons meeting to be held on Sept. 27

AMMAN (Petra) — The first

pan-Arab conference by the federation of Arab surgeons will open here on Sept. 27 under royal patronage and with the participation of 500 doctors and specialists, some of them from foreign countries.

Dr. Hassan Khreiss the federation's secretary general said in a statement that the conference which has been organised by the Jordanian surgeons society (JSS) is bound to serve as a further step towards bolstering cooperation among Arab surgeons.

The federation now groups 16 Arab countries which now seeks to set up other specialised bodies within the medical fields in the Arab World, Khreiss said in a statement at a press conference here.

He expressed hope that the coming conference will declare the birth of a league grouping all surgeons in the Arab World.

Addressing the press conference was Jordan Medical Association (JMA) President Mamdouh Al-Abbadi and Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Bashir the JSS president, outlining the society's programmes and objectives.

The society, which was created in 1973, hopes that the conference would promote cooperation among medical associations in the Arab World and would boost medical teaching programmes. A total of 50 working papers will be reviewed at the five-day meeting of which 28 will be presented from Jordan.

OBITUARY

HART — Frances, beloved wife of Dr. Charles Hart, formerly of the University of Jordan (1968-1980), of cancer Sept. 8, 1989. She wishes to be remembered by all her friends and piano students in a country she loved so much. Letters to Place Cottage, Tostock, Suffolk, England.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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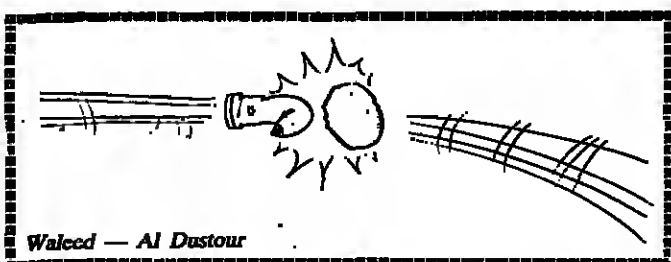
The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times Advertising Department.

Good news for Lebanon

GENERAL Michel Aoun's acceptance of the seven-point peace plan presented by the Arab League committee is the best news that Lebanon has heard for a long time. While no peace plan for a complex situation can ever be expected to be perfect, the Arab peace proposals were painstakingly arrived at after much negotiations with the principal parties in the Lebanese crisis and offer reasonable grounds for a permanent and just settlement. Aoun's belated endorsement of these peace points reflects his willingness to compromise for the sake of his country's interests and stability. To have opted for a rejectionist stance would have dealt a deadly blow to the only viable mediation efforts to settle the endemic Lebanese conflict. Aoun deserves to be commended for putting reason before emotions and for giving precedence to reconciliation over continued belligerence that has led Lebanon from one catastrophe to another.

The rapid acceptance of the Arab proposals by the other principal factions in Lebanon, albeit that did not correspond totally with their original perspectives, has certainly paved the way for General Aoun to yield to positive accommodation with the other partners in whose hands lie the future of Lebanon.

With these good news a new beginning for the reconstruction of modern Lebanon on firmer and lasting grounds looms brightly in the horizon. To be sure the process of healing in Lebanon will be long and difficult but at least the first step has been taken. The other measures that need to be taken, whether in the form of consolidating the ceasefire, lifting the blockades or halting the arms race in the war-torn country, will surely fortify the first milestone in the restructuring of Lebanon. Yet the biggest test will come when the Lebanese parliament gets convened at the end of September to effect the necessary and long-awaited corrections in the Lebanese political institutions. After so many decades of independence, time has become ripe for reviewing the existing political structure in Lebanon with a view to introducing improvements and amendments to cope with the new realities and circumstances. This has been the experience of all modern nation-states and Lebanon cannot be an exception to such a process of taking stock of past, present and future events and circumstances.



Walced — Al Dustour

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Saturday discussed the obstacles placed in the path of a Middle East peace by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. The paper pointed out that the Israeli prime minister has rejected the 10-point Egyptian peace plan and also turned down Swedish Foreign Minister Sten Andersson's call for an immediate dialogue between the Israelis and the Palestinians to achieve peace. Andersson has said that the ball is now in Israel's court and it is up to the Israeli government to take steps that would boost the chance of peace, the paper said. In view of the fact that Israel still refuses all peace bids, and turns down all calls for an end to occupation, said the paper, what remains now is an all-out pressure by the international community to force Israel to accept the principle of swapping land for peace which Jordan has been calling for over the past two decades. The paper said that the United States as a superpower, and an ally to Israel can find no pretext for abstaining from a constructive step that would lead to peace.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily criticises the Ministry of Education for not making available sufficient teaching staff at government schools despite the lapse of one month since the start of the new scholastic year. Salah Abdul Samad says that the ministry is to be commended for taking proper measures to supply textbooks and for its continued endeavour to provide buildings to house schools, but it should be noted that some schools like the preparatory school for boys in Abu Nuseir still lacks a teacher for English. The writer maintains that such issues are of paramount importance to the students and the learning process, and in order to avoid further confusion for the school administrations and the students alike. The writer says that the ministry which runs all the government schools and is responsible for developing the educational process in the Kingdom, ought to take speedy steps that would remedy the present unacceptable situation.

Al Dustour daily tackled the situation in Lebanon following the reported acceptance of Michel Aoun, head of the Lebanese military government, of an Arab League peace plan to end the conflict in the embattled country. The paper said with this step one can say that Lebanon is now on the threshold of a new stage in its history, one that witnesses a full agreement, on the part of all conflicting factions, on a plan to end the bloodshed and start peace negotiations. This step opens the way for political reform which in turn can put an end to all tragedies in Lebanon and bring justice to all parties alike, the paper noted. The approval by all parties of the peace plan, opens up wide prospects for stability and peace, said the paper, which urged all concerned parties to seize this golden opportunity and start peace talks that would ensure the unity of their country.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

The pessimists and the optimists

By Dr. Faded Fanek

I WISH that the words "optimistic" and "pessimistic" were removed from the public opinion vocabulary. Too much optimism may lead to bitter disappointments, and overly pessimism may blind active people from perceiving the right opportunities for action and success.

However, my wishes will not result in the elimination of these two contradicting positions. The common ground between optimism and pessimism is the distance from reality, and the attempt to colour things in a rosy colour that they don't have if you were optimistic, or a dark colour that they don't have if you were pessimistic. In both cases it is more likely that you will go in the wrong direction, do wrong and unwarranted expectations, and consequently make wrong decisions and talk wrong attitude towards opportunities and difficulties.

If optimism and pessimism are unavoidable, I wish that optimism will prevail in the circles of businessmen, investors and the private sector in general. Optimism in the private sector tends to be self-fulfilling because it motivates businessmen towards more courage, activity, investment, the taking of calculated risks and the betting on a better future. On the other hand we wish that officials in the government and the public sector maintain a

considerable pessimism because that may motivate them towards more conservatism, and the evasion of uncalculated risks. It makes them more cautious and alert to the mines planted along the road. A pessimistic official is normally more ready for the worst of circumstances.

At one time during the past twelve months or so, pessimism prevailed over the mood of everyone. Officials of course were pretending to be optimistic merely to inspire hope among the people, because if we don't have hope we shall not try to meet the challenge and prevail, as there is no incentive in that case to enter into competition for a lost case.

The atmosphere has radically changed. The major and worst part of the economic crisis did actually take place and there is nothing more that we should worry about. It is more likely that the pessimism tide has exceeded reasonable limit. We have started to reevaluate the situation and discover that things are not that bad after all. The economic crisis is real and formidable, but it is containable and manageable. With some luck we can keep the situation under control, overcome the difficulty, and resume healthy growth.

We try to understand the factors that changed the mood of the

people, at least partially, from pessimism to optimism. We don't need to dwell on these factors as they are evident. However we hope that officials and decision-makers in the government will not be carried away by the positive indicators. In the same way the Central Bank was carried away in the area of exchange rate. They should keep telling themselves that the crisis is not yet behind us, but still upon us. The fundamentals of the Jordanian economy did show a tendency towards improvement, but we still have a long way to go before the desired structural changes take place in the areas of employment, investment, consumption, imports, exports, budget, expatriate remittances, balance of payments, cost of production and competitiveness.

Every trading company needs an optimistic general manager to see the wider horizon, and a pessimistic finance manager to apply the brakes and warn against risks. Likewise, we need the private sector to behave as if the crisis will ease tomorrow, and the public sector to behave as if the crisis was not a passing phenomenon, and that the recovery should not be taken for granted. The setback is always there to guard against, and officials should continue to be cautious, and push on with the correction programme without hesitation.

Amnesty International appeals for end to judicial executions

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL said Wednesday, Sept. 20 it had documented at least 1,600 judicial executions worldwide during the first eight months of the year but that the true number of people executed by states was much higher.

In a special appeal, the worldwide human rights organisation called on six individual governments to stop using the death penalty and help to end the "cruel and arbitrary killing of prisoners held defenceless by states around the world."

Amnesty International's appeal to China, Iran, Iraq, South Africa, the USA and the USSR came as the organisation launched a week of action against the death penalty which it describes as an extreme human rights violation inflicted disproportionately on the poor and the powerless.

The organisation says it is appealing to these six governments because a change in their practices could "turn the tide of state sanctioned killing." These appeals are part of Amnesty International's call this year to all governments to end the use of the death penalty.

At least 1,200 people have been executed in Iran this year, more than half for drug-related offences. Hundreds were executed for political offences; Amnesty International has the names of 1,700 political prisoners reported executed after August last year.

Of the 242 people known to have been executed in China this year, 137 were executed after early June and include people accused of involvement in the pro-democracy protests. Amnes-

ty International said it feared the true total of executions in China was much higher since the Chinese authorities had issued a directive not to publish figures on executions of "counter-revolutionaries."

So far in 1989, 37 people have been reported executed in South Africa and 13 in the USA. At least one person is known to have been executed in the USSR, with five awaiting imminent execution after their appeals for clemency were turned down. Amnesty International says the USSR has refused to publish statistics on executions for more than 50 years.

This international human rights organisation says it is gravely concerned by a number of legal and political developments on the death penalty during the year.

In the USA, where 2,210 prisoners were on death row at the end of August, the Supreme Court ruled that the execution of juvenile offenders and the mentally retarded is permissible under the U.S. Constitution and does not violate the Eighth Amendment ban on "cruel and unusual punishment." Amnesty International says the June ruling was a "retrograde step" which flew in the face of international human rights treaties and standards, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and American Convention on Human Rights.

Since the ruling was handed down at least one U.S. prisoner believed to be mentally retarded has been executed. Horace Dunkins, aged 28, was electrocuted in the state of Alabama on July 14. The first jolt of electricity

failed to kill him, reportedly because the electric chair had been wired incorrectly. He was only declared dead 19 minutes after the lever was first pulled.

Amnesty International says it has been appalled by the summary trials and executions of people involved in the demonstrations in China in May and June this year. Although a number are reported to have been charged with violent offences, there has been no way of establishing whether the charges bear any relation to reality — Amnesty International says the death penalty is used as a political tool in China and fears for the fate of many among at least 4,000 people officially reported arrested after the army massacres in June.

Fourteen men and women in South Africa were convicted of murder and sentenced to death in May in connection with the killing of a police officer after security forces broke up a protest meeting near the town of Uptington. Thirteen of the defendants were found only to have thrown stones at the officer's house; one was found guilty of delivering the fatal blows. The 13 were convicted of sharing a "common purpose" in the murder by stoning the house.

In September the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court granted leave to all but one of the fourteen defendants to appeal against their convictions and sentences for murder. The remaining defendant can appeal against the death sentence.

Amnesty International has learned of 12 people sentenced to death in the Soviet Union so far this year. Three of them would be

exempt from the death penalty if the new principles of criminal law which reduce the number of capital offences from 18 to six were to be adopted by the Congress of People's Deputies.

Since Amnesty International launched its worldwide campaign against the death penalty in April, one country — Cambodia — has announced its decision to abolish capital punishment. An extraordinary session of the Cambodian National Assembly unanimously adopted an amendment to the constitution on April 30.

Moves for abolition have been under way in several other countries. In August the Italian parliament called for the removal of the death penalty from the country's military penal code. In Ireland, the two political parties belonging to the ruling coalition decided in mid-July on a programme of action to abolish the death penalty for all offences. In Switzerland there have been moves in parliament to abolish the death penalty for all offences.

In Jamaica 10 prisoners had their death sentences annulled by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC) in London in March and July. Some of them had been on death row for 11 years.

Amnesty International welcomes the decision of the JCPC, which, it says, could have implications for other death row inmates in Jamaica and other countries in the Caribbean region which have the JCPC as their final court of appeal. No executions have been carried out in Jamaica since a new government took office in February 1989.

In June 1989 Hungary abo-

lished the death penalty for crimes against the state.

In Angola 50 prisoners convicted of violent offences committed on behalf of the opposition UNITA had their death sentences commuted in June.

In May the United Nations Economic and Social Council adopted a resolution recommending that U.N. member states take steps to strengthen the safeguards of the rights of those facing the death penalty by "establishing a maximum age beyond which a person may not be sentenced to death or executed." It also recommended eliminating the death penalty for persons suffering from "mental retardation or extremely limited mental competence."

Some government responses to

its campaign have been encouraging, Amnesty International says.

Costa Rican President and Nobel Laureate Oscar Arias Sanchez, Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, Austrian Federal Chancellor Dr. Franz Vranitzky, European Parliament President Enrique Baron Crespo, Soviet Nobel Laureate and parliamentarian Andrey Sakharov, Janes Stanovnik, President of the Yugoslav republic of Slovenia, Geoffrey Palmer, Prime Minister of New Zealand and Bob Hawke, Prime Minister of Australia were among hundreds of government ministers, political party heads, supreme court presidents and other political and judicial leaders from around the world who signed a joint appeal to end executions.

American impotence

The following editorial is reprinted from the London-based Middle East International.

On 30 August the Security Council of the United Nations adopted, by 14 votes to none (the United States abstaining), a resolution criticising Israel for continuing to deport Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza. It was the fourth such resolution — and the most strongly worded — adopted by the Security Council in the 20 months since the start of the Palestinian intifada in December 1987. During that time 60 Palestinians, among them university lecturers, trade union organisers, a newspaper editor and other leading figures of the community living under occupation, have been taken from their homes on orders from the Israeli military governor and, without a trial or even a formal indictment, expelled from the land of their birth.

The vote in the Security Council, and in particular the role of the United States, has caused much speculation. When draft resolutions critical of Israel are put forward at the U.N., the American administration (any administration) finds itself in a familiar and embarrassing dilemma. The U.S. does not like to stand up publicly and vote for practices which the rest of the world condemns; on the other hand, the U.S. is prepared to go to almost any lengths to avoid joining in a formal criticism of Israel. And the government of Israel (any government of Israel, and the present one more than most) can be relied upon to engage at regular intervals in the kind of practices which are impossible to justify or defend.

The deportation of individuals from their own countries is one such practice. It is contrary to Article 9 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to which every member of the United Nations has subscribed since the declaration was adopted by the General Assembly in 1948. It constitutes a breach of Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention, the most recent and most categorical international agreement (it was framed in 1949) dealing specifically with the obligations of an occupying power towards the civilian population under its control. Deportation was classified at the Nuremberg trials after the World War II, and has been regarded ever since, as a war crime.

Involving as it does the disruption of family life, the sudden alienation of the victim from everything that is familiar and precious, deportation is also of course a punishment of extreme cruelty (in itself enough to outlaw the practice under Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights). Whether for this reason or because the legal position is so abundantly clear, deportation as practised by the Israeli authorities in the occupied territories appears to mark the limit of American tolerance. As far as the U.S. is concerned, it would appear that the Israelis may do virtually what they please to the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip — beat them, shoot them, deny them proper medical attention, close their schools and universities, arrest them at will on any pretext or on none, and confine them for months without trial in a concentration camp, while their houses are demolished and their families dispersed — all this, we have to assume from their silence, is acceptable to the government and the representatives of the people of the U.S. (who continue to subsidise the government of Israel). Only when it comes to deportation, it seems, do the Americans draw the line, and then only to the point of abstention rather than of voting against a practice which the administration professes to "deplore".

In the light of the factual record, the position of the U.S. in this matter is confused to the point of absurdity; but the reality is more complicated. The American people at large cannot be held responsible for the official actions of their government; nor, in this particular context, can the government itself. The Bush administration has shown in a variety of ways that it wants to turn its back on the simplistic pro-Israeli and anti-Palestinian policy of President Reagan and Mr. Shultz and to frame a policy of its own which takes proper account of the hopes and desires — and rights — of both sides to the conflict in the Middle East. What prevents President Bush and Secretary of State Baker from achieving this is the strength of the Zionist lobby and the hold it has acquired over the members of both houses of Congress.

The result is humiliating for the U.S. and disastrous for the prospects of a settlement. As long as American senators and congressmen are more concerned about their own political survival — and dependent for it on retaining the goodwill of the Zionist lobby — than they are about achieving peace in the Middle East, the administration will remain impotent and Israeli extremism will be given a free hand.

Pro-reform groups springing up in E. Germany

By Terrence Petty
The Associated Press

BERLIN — The exodus of thousands of East German refugees to the West has provided an impetus to small opposition groups in East Germany that want the nation's hard-line Communist rulers to start adopting political reforms.

"For too long, people have only dared to express their hopes in places like bars, where it's safe. It's time we start talking about these things out in the open," said 27-year-old Klaus, a new member of the fledgling pro-democracy group Neues Forum (New Forum).

Klaus asked that his last name not be used, to avoid possible harassment by the police.

While the nation's powerful internal security apparatus ruthlessly goes after signs of dissent, Neues Forum activists say they still hope that now is the time for change.

Erich Honecker's government staunchly rejects the kinds of reforms under way in the Soviet Union, Hungary and Poland, saying there is no need for them in East Germany.

with modifications.

Two weeks after its creation, Neues Forum has expanded from its 30 founders to more than 1,500 supporters nationwide, drawing from a well of discontent shared by students, labourers and others, the organiser said.

Neues Forum says it has also received inquiries from a number of low-level Communist Party members.

At one founding member's East Berlin apartment, the telephone rang frequently as people called seeking information about Neues Forum. Several East Berliners knocked on the door, with the same request.

"The response has far exceeded our expectations," said Rolf Henrich, another founding member of Neues Forum who was kicked out of the Communist Party earlier this year for harshly criticising the government.

Other new pro-democracy groups are springing up as well, with a meeting of activists from across East Germany tentatively planned for sometime next month.

It's not clear how many people belong to such groups and how many have expressed interest.

However, West Germany's mass-circulation Bild newspaper on Tuesday quoted East Berlin Protestant Minister Rainer Eppelmann as saying that there are "about 500 pro-democracy church groups with memberships ranging from 10 to 100."

The "Citizens' Movement for Democracy Now" was founded last week by 12 people including Lutheran church pastors, scientists and human rights activists. The group says it now has a couple of hundred members. Another pro-reform group, "Liste 2," was recently founded in Dresden.

Neues Forum says the exodus of East Germans to the West should be a signal to Communist authorities that something must be done soon about widespread discontent and despair among East German citizens.

"People who contact us say they have faced the question whether to also leave, or stay and try to get something done," one of the group's founders, East German artist Baerbel Bohley, said on West Germany's ARD television network Monday night.

Among those making contact with Neues Forum are disillusioned Communist Party members, the group's leaders say.

It is believed there is a growing desire among lower Communist Party echelons for political as well as economic reforms, but that people at the top refuse to listen.

"People contact us saying they have directed a (state-owned) business for 20 years and have ideas for economic changes. They say that for a long time they have made suggestions to the central committee, but there was simply no reply," Ms. Bohley said.

Ms. Bohley was filmed by West German TV while she was talking on the telephone with a reporter calling from a West German radio station. ARD said it was not permitted by state authorities to interview Ms. Bohley in East Berlin.

Neues Forum on Tuesday submitted official applications to Communist authorities in districts across East Germany seeking to be legalised.

The group's chances for official approval do not look promising. About 100 activists, including Neues Forum members, were arrested after a prayer service at Leipzig's Nikolai church Monday night.

Among them was Michael Arnold, Leipzig coordinator for Neues Forum. Arnold and the others were released Tuesday afternoon.

But activists say they will keep up their efforts for change whether Neues Forum is legalised or not, saying the only alternative for East Germans is continued frustration and despair.

Henrich, one of the Neues Forum founders, told a gathering of activists in East Berlin Monday night that a congress of all pro-democracy groups is planned for sometime next month to "formulate common goals."

"Everyone agrees on one thing. Things cannot go on as they are in the German Democratic Republic (East Germany)," he said.

India — today and tomorrow

India is the seventh largest country and the biggest democracy in the world. Independent only since 1947, it has made rapid strides in agricultural, industrial, technological and scientific fields. It is one of the largest producers of coal, manganese and iron ore and has made notable headway in the exploration of oil and other energy sources, with particular emphasis on nuclear and solar energy. It has Asia's largest and world's fourth largest railway system. With 6.32 million GRT, the country has the second largest merchant shipping fleet in Asia.

both through absorption, modification and adoption of latest foreign technology as well as the indigenous technology evolved through the country's own research and development efforts, has paid rich dividends. India has acquired technological competence not only in the field of manufacture but also in designing, processing, knowhow and consultancy. Again, the efforts have not been confined only to conventional techniques but include new fields of technology.

Export scenario

Industrial production has greatly expanded and diversified. This has been reflected in the changing export scenario. Engineering goods, consultancy services and knowhow have come to occupy a significant place. Apart from exporting a wide variety of consumer goods, high precision machinery and equipment, India is supplying consultancy services, joint ventures and turnkey projects to many countries of the world. At present, India has contracts worth around Rs. 50,000 million in various stages of implementation throughout the world.

Important projects undertaken by Indian companies in other countries include plants for the manufacture of textiles, sugar, cement, cables, paper and pulp, civil engineering projects including bridges, flyovers, excavation, tunnelling, water supply and sewage, architectural design and planning covering airport terminals and runways, residential complexes, school buildings and university campuses, generation of power including transmission and distribution, railway management and engineering projects, fabrica-

tion of boilers, refrigeration equipment and electronic items.

India is, in addition, able to provide specialised consultancy in the fields of irrigation and flood control, mining and geology, setting up ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgical plants, fertilizers, chemicals and petrochemicals plants, computer software and general management techniques.

In the beginning of 1989, there were 179 effective Indian joint ventures in different countries. Out of these, 152 joint ventures were in operation while 27 were at different stages of implementation. The joint ventures currently in operation are dispersed over 30 countries.

New frontiers

India has made notable progress in space research, oceanography and atomic energy for peaceful and developmental purposes.

India became the seventh country in the world to launch its own satellite Rohini (RS-1), through its own launch vehicle (SLV-3), from its launch pad from Sriharikota in July 1980. The second Rohini Satellite (RS-2) was placed in space in May 1981. APPLE, India's first experimental geostationary telecommunications satellite was successfully launched in June 1981.

On April 17, 1983, the Rohini Satellite was placed in the earth orbit. INSAT-B was successfully launched on Aug. 30, 1983. Since Oct. 15, 1983, it has been serving the telecommunication, television, radio and meteorology programmes. India took another leap forward in space technology when in collaboration with Soviet Union, it sent its first cosmonaut, Squadron Leader Rakesh Sharma, in space in SOYUZ T-11 in April 1984.

The year 1988 marks the 25th anniversary of Indian Space Programme. The silver jubilee year saw three major launch campaigns: Orbiting of an Operational Remote Sensing Satellite IRS-1A, a development flight of the Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle ASLA-D2, and orbiting of an operational communication satellite INSAT-1C.

The Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) "Agni" with a range of 2500 Kms. is a feather in the cap of Indian Space Research. The "Agni" was launched in May 1989.

India has signed the Antarctic Treaty and has become the 15th Consultative Member State. The despatch of five scientific expeditions to Antarctica and the establishment of a permanent manned station for undertaking studies in the pursuit of science have been the major landmarks enhancing the country's capabilities in the ocean sector. The country has registered itself with the International Seabed Authority for a pioneer area for extensive survey of polymetallic nodules in the central Indian Ocean.

India has also harnessed atomic energy for peaceful purposes. It has developed its technology for installing atomic power plants. The commissioning of the indigenously designed and built 100 MW research reactor, Dhruva, at Trombay, the commissioning of the second unit of Madras Atomic Power Station by the Fast Breeder Test Reactor at Kalpakam, are the three recent milestones in the Indian nuclear programme.



Meet the energetic Simone, who has won the hearts of music lovers throughout the Middle East.

Simone: A star is born

By Katia Sabet

CAIRO — She sprang out of nowhere. In less than two years, thanks to a combination of talent and a good dose of luck, Simone Philippe, known simply as Simone, rocketed to fame, capturing the imagination of millions of young people all over the Middle East.

It sounds like a fairy tale. Almost overnight, the slim, wiry 22-year-old was propelled from the anonymity of the huge city of Cairo onto the big screen. In her first film, a recently released production titled "Yom Mor, Yom Helou" (A Day of Sorrow, A Day of Joy), Simone went straight to the top. She is directed by Egypt's famous film director Khairi Bishara, and she plays alongside the now legendary superstar of the Egyptian cinema, Faten Hamama.

But Simone's swift rise to fame did not start with the film. Already a promising young singer, she came to the movies by chance. How she managed to carve a niche in the well-populated Middle Eastern music scene is also a tale of a dream come true.

"I was at university studying literature," she recalled during a recent interview. "I used to sing, like everybody else sings — or perhaps I had a little more enthusiasm and knew a wider variety of songs than most. But the idea of going on stage had never crossed my mind." Attractive, though not conventionally beautiful, she might have gone into teaching, or writing, until one day it happened, out of the blue. She was at the annual university party and the singer, a star everyone was dying to see, never showed up. "My friends pushed me onto the stage telling me to sing to keep the crowd entertained," recalls the young star. So Simone took the plunge. She grabbed the microphone and, improvising with the orchestra, she sang some current favourites.

"I was delighted the people didn't throw chairs at me. In fact, I couldn't believe that the crowd was going along with me," she laughs, tossing a mane of chestnut hair. In fact, her ever-growing public has been going along with her ever since — all the way. Simone has become one of the most successful of Egypt's contemporary singers. She says it was all thanks to a family friend — a songwriter — who introduced her to producer Tarek El Kachef. After a grueling audition, El Kachef was noncommittal and simply said to her that he would get "in touch."

Recalls the producer: "I immediately got the feeling I was on to something new, different — a young singer with a style of her own." As a new departure from making movies, El Kachef was planning to produce an album of

popular Western tunes sung in Arabic; he had several singers lined up for the project, but after he heard Simone, he decided she would do it, and she would do it alone. "She was much more than just a voice." And he was right: the album was an immediate success and sold thousands of copies.

"Then I organised a show in a Cairo discotheque and for the first time, I saw the way Simone sang. She moved, she sang with her whole body. That may be normal in the West, but for us, it was a huge innovation, the audacity of it was inconceivable," remembers El Kachef.

Modern songs, with their driving beat, are made to make people move, argues the young star, and the days are over when the likes of Oum Koulthoum — the greatest Middle Eastern singer of all time — stood motionless in front of the microphone.

Far from resting on her laurels after her spectacular rise to stardom, Simone has been working on perfecting her image — and her voice. I'm working on my voice and I'm also taking lessons in dance and posture," she says. Recalling her entrance into the movie world as a young singer, she explained: "The daughter of (director) Khairi Bishara saw me doing a song on television; just at the time when her father was looking for young actresses to play in 'Yom Mor, Yom Helou' and she mentioned me to him." As luck would have it, shortly afterwards the young singer appeared on TV again, and the director saw her. "He called me the next day. I had no idea who he was, I had never even seen any of his films," she says. The director wanted to meet her and told her to come the next day, but "don't wear any makeup," he warned, "don't pass by the hairdresser's, and dress like a peasant."

Faten's daughter

Simone was astounded. The idea of acting in movies had never occurred to her, not to mention acting alongside Faten Hamama. "I was beside myself with fear. I begged Khairi not to give me the role of a bad girl, I didn't want the public to judge me like that for my first film. He just told me to trust him. But the next hurdle was to meet Faten; I was to play her daughter in the film, so she had to approve of Khairi's choice," Simone recalls.

Meeting the star for the first time was quite an experience. "It's the strangest thing to actually meet a celebrity you have known forever, it feels like you've known them all your life, and in fact they're complete strangers," she muses. The dreaded moment was over in a flash. Faten Hamama turned to the producer with a smile and

commented that Simone was made for this role.

Amid all the excitement of the preparations, Simone read the script, and when she got to the end of it, she realised hers was almost a non-speaking role. "I went to Khairi and complained, but he just laughed and explained that in the cinema, an almost silent part can be far more important than one that has a lot of dialogue," she says.

Indeed, her character, Lamia, is a silent, secret, rather standoffish girl. She goes through life without thinking of the consequences of her actions, but she pays for her mistakes without a word. In one memorable scene she pours gasoline over herself and sets fire to her dress. The scene is gruesomely realistic... and for good reason. I really did set fire to my clothes," explains Simone. "I was in a kind of trance. If someone hadn't pulled me out of there, I probably would have let myself burn. They had put layers of asbestos and wet clothing under my dress and I was supposed to start running as soon as it caught fire so it wouldn't burn my face. We could only play the scene once because all the scenery was supposed to catch fire too. I felt like I had been sentenced to death. I didn't want to go to show I was scared out of my wits. And I just stood there, I didn't know what I was doing anymore."

"I remember thinking how horrible it would be to die this way. Everyone around me was shouting 'Run, run,' but I couldn't move. I screamed when I saw the fire but my feet were glued to the ground."

Hamama, the elder, experienced actress, gave Simone a talking-to and called her a silly fool for taking such a risk, the young singer says, "but I got the feeling she was actually quite proud of me."

The rapid rise to stardom has taken away none of Simone's freshness and spontaneity. Nor has it changed her lifestyle. Her father works as an engineer and her mother runs a small supermarket, and she continues to live with them and her brother, a university student, in a popular quarter of Cairo called Shubra, in what she describes as a "tiny, tiny little house." But big things are coming her way: she is working on her second film and is about to put out her third album. *World News Link*

As the tenth most industrialised country in the world, the size of its force of trained technological personnel is second only to those of the USA and USSR. As many as three million students receive higher education in 111 universities and specialised institutes. Agricultural research has resulted in self-sufficiency in food and even led to the export of rice and wheat flour in recent years.

Production of foodgrains has gone up three-fold from 40 million tonnes in 1947 to over 160 million tonnes. India now produces 30 million tonnes of oil annually and the steel making capacity is 14.7 million tonnes.

In management and production processes, modern sophisticated techniques are evident everywhere. There is growing concern on quality. Indian goods and services are competing with the best in the world.

Industrial production has registered notable progress in di-

verse fields such as steel, petroleum and petroleum products, power generation, cement, coal, fertilizers, chemicals, drugs and pharmaceuticals, plastics, electrical and electronic goods, railway engines and wagons, automobiles, ships, agricultural machinery and equipment and a vast range of light and heavy engineering goods.

India now produces and exports complete plants for industries such as steel, cement, coal, chemicals, paper and paperboard, sugar, textile and jute mills, edible oils and rice milling, tea processing and power generation.

Research and development

The abundance of technological and scientific manpower in India has gone a long way in aiding productive research. The emphasis on increasing the country's technological capabilities,

By Brenda C. Coleman
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — More than a third of the millions of Americans who suffer from serious sleep disturbances may also have psychiatric difficulties, including depression and panic attacks, a study indicates.

Researchers who analysed data on 7,954 people found that 40 per cent of those with insomnia and 46.5 per cent of those who sleep excessively, a condition called hypersomnia, also had psychiatric problems.

Psychiatric problems included major depression, anxiety disorders such as phobias and panic attacks and alcohol abuse, the researchers reported in The Journal of the American Medical Association.

About 6 per cent of the general adult population suffers from serious sleep disturbances, the lead researcher, Dr. Daniel E. Ford of Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, said in a telephone interview. Ford was with the National Institute of Mental Health, which did the study.

Ford said it was not always

clear whether the psychiatric disorders caused the sleep disturbances or vice versa.

However, follow-up interviews a year after the initial screening indicated that subjects with sleep disorders were much more likely to develop new mental disorders, especially depression, than non-sleep disturbed subjects, the researchers said.

For example, people who had insomnia at both the first and second interviews were almost 40 times more likely to develop major depression than those who didn't, the study found.

Psychiatric disorders frequent companion of sleep problems, study finds

Bikes help protect environment, but mostly the poor pedal

By David Briscoe
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The bicycle can help solve some of the world's pollution and economic problems, but its usefulness often is stifled by the stigma of being a poor person's vehicle, a new study says.

In the United States there is nearly one bike for every two people, but many Americans drive cars to health clubs where they ride stationary exercise bikes, said the researcher Marcia D. Lowe in a recent report.

In countries that have fewer cars, she said, bikes carry com-

muters, deliver milk, haul squealing pigs, and deliver the mail.

Worldwide, 800 million bicycles outnumber cars 2-to-1. By contrast, the United States built 6 million bikes and 6 million cars in 1987. China, in the same year, produced 41 million bikes and 4,065 automobiles, Lowe said in "The Bicycle: Vehicle for a small planet," a Worldwatch Institute report.

The institute is an independent, non-profit research organisation that analyses environmental and economic issues.

Many countries that should be producing and using more bicycles and tricycles are pouring

money into automobile manufacturing, roads and industries to support a mode of transportation most of their population cannot afford, Lowe said at a briefing on the report.

"One of the greatest ironies of the 20th century is that around the globe, vast amounts of scarce, priceless things as land, petroleum and clean air have been relinquished for motorisation — and yet most people in the world will never own an automobile," she said.

Nearly 11 billion in U.S. oil imports could be saved if 10 per cent of Americans switched to bicycles for at least part of their

commute to work, said Lowe, who practices what she preaches in traffic-clogged Washington.

Bicycle promotional groups say less than one commuter in a hundred pedals to work in the United States.

Some of the poorest countries are hostile to pedal traffic because bicycles are viewed as "vehicles of the poor," said Lowe.

In Jakarta, Indonesia, she said, city officials confiscate 100,000 bicycle rickshaws over the past five years and dumped them into the sea.

Michael Replogle, president of the Institute for Transportation

and Development Policy, said his organisation tries to encourage governments to put less emphasis on expensive road building and more on producing vehicles people can afford and use.

Lowe's report says many roads in poorer countries are more useful for drying beans and peppers than moving traffic.

The Netherlands and Denmark are the most bicycle-oriented of the developed countries, the report says. The Netherlands has the world's highest density of both bicycle lanes and cars, it says, while 32 per cent of Danish commuters bicycle to work.

Indonesia: tropical forests = foreign currency

INDONESIA, Malaysia and Singapore have agreed to launch a counter-attack against Western environmentalists who campaign to persuade developed countries to stop buying tropical forest products. Rachmat Hassan reports from Jakarta.

Indonesia says it needs the hard currency earned from the sale of tropical forest products to finance its development. Forestry products are the second biggest foreign exchange earners after oil.

Minister of Forestry Hasjri Harahap has said concrete action will be taken immediately, and other ASEAN countries are expected to join the campaign.

Meanwhile, an environmental group has urged the government to restructure its "confusing" policies on forest management.

and concession areas are difficult to control," claims SKEPHI. Deforestation in Indonesia has reached 900,000 hectares per year, the most serious in the Asia-Pacific rim. About three quarters of the country's total area — 143 million hectares — is forest.

SKEPHI says Indonesia will lose some 19.5 million hectares of forest in the 1986-2010 period. The Indonesian Forest Conservation Network (SKEPHI) says present policies are focused on forest exploitation and not on the welfare of the people.

"Regulations which require forest concession-holders to carry out reforestation are confusing mostly due to logging activities by concession-holders who now control 64 million hectares — PANOS.

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Jordan plans austere '90 budget

AMMAN (R) — Finance Minister Basel Jardaneh, in remarks published Saturday, said the government planned an austerity budget for calendar 1990 that would improve the balance of payments and narrow the budget deficit.

In an interview with the Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaab and the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al Jazira, Jardaneh said the 1990 state budget would reflect the spirit of the economic reform plan reached with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in July.

He said the expected budget would put spending at 1.090 billion dinars (\$1.7 billion at official rates) compared to this year's projected spending of 1.035 billion dinars (\$1.68 billion).

Jardaneh said the budget anticipated revenue of 960 million dinars (\$1.5 billion), leaving a deficit of around 130 million dinars (\$211 million), or 10 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

He said local revenues would be increased by around 15 per

cent in 1990 while public spending would not exceed eight per cent, a formula that would help reduce the budget deficit.

Jardaneh left for Washington Friday to attend the annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank and no finance ministry official was immediately available for further comment.

The IMF programme aims to reduce the budget deficit from about 25 per cent of GDP in 1988 to six per cent in 1993 and to cut the balance of payments deficit.

It also aims to rebuild the foreign exchange reserves to the equivalent of three months' exports by 1993 and to achieve GDP growth of four per cent in 1991, compared to a 3.5 per cent fall in 1988.

Jordan, facing a foreign debt of

more than \$7 billion, suffered economic difficulties when a foreign exchange shortage forced it to devalue the dinar by more than 40 per cent of its dollar value.

In July, it won agreement from the Paris Club of major Western creditor nations to reschedule debt repayments due this year and next.

Amman has also reached an agreement in principle with the Soviet Union and the London

Club of major commercial bank creditors to delay repayments due in 1989 and 1990.

Before rescheduling, Jordan faced repayments of \$1.21 billion this year and \$1.28 billion next year.

Jardaneh said a year-long ban on more than 12 consumer items, including cars and television sets, air conditioning units, marble, granite and artificial flowers, would be lifted by the end of this

year. The former government of Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifa'i imposed the ban in November to save up to \$200 million in foreign exchange that was spent on the import of such items.

Jardaneh expected Jordan's imports of such commodities to drop after the ban is removed because of the dinar's devaluation and higher import fees imposed on these 12 items.

'Sudan must speed up reforms'

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan must accelerate efforts to fix its ailing economy before it will get the massive foreign aid it needs, foreign bankers and economists said Friday.

They said despite its decision to gradually reduce subsidies on basic items, Sudan appeared to be paying only lip service to the more drastic reforms prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and other foreign creditors.

Finance Minister Sayed Ali Zaki left for Washington Friday for the annual meeting of the IMF and World Bank, carrying an economic reform plan for dis-

cussion. Details of the plan, which Sudan hopes to implement with foreign funds, have not yet been disclosed.

"The rhetoric is encouraging and the measures taken so far are also useful," a senior Khartoum-based banker told Reuters. "But most of the ministers and officials I meet seem not to have a clear idea of what to do next," he added.

The country's military junta, which seized power in a coup on June 30, raised bread prices by 25 per cent last week and said it planned the same for other heavily-subsidised items.

Sudan, with a population of about 5 million, has not been able to fully service its estimated \$14 billion foreign debt since the early 1980s.

It has an annual inflation rate of nearly 100 per cent and has been hit since 1984 by drought, floods, famine and invasions of desert locusts.

A long-running civil war in its southern region is sapping its limited resources.

The bread price hike was introduced one month ahead of scheduled talks in Khartoum with the IMF, the first between the two sides since the junta took power

Third World urged to seek private aid for energy projects

MONTREAL (R) — Third World countries must seek more private investments to finance an estimated \$100 billion per year in energy development costs, delegates at the World Energy Conference have said.

"The World Bank and the public sector can only contribute 20 per cent of the \$100 billion needed, so the rest has to come from the private sector," said Anthony Churchill, director of energy for the World Bank.

Churchill, participating in a panel discussion, said \$80 to \$100 billion per year over the next 10 years was needed to meet grow-

ing energy demand throughout the world.

Energy demand from developing countries will more than double from 1985 to 2020, according to a World Energy Conference report.

Some members of the private sector at the conference supported the idea of investment in the Third World.

"Developing countries represent important markets for developed country suppliers of equipment and services for the power sector," said Cordell Hull, executive vice president of Bechtel Group Inc. "The smaller the

project, the easier it is to attract private risk capital," he added.

Keith Palmer, head of natural resources and utilities group of N.M. Rothschild in the United Kingdom, said he believed banks in the future would more readily lead to well-secured private sector projects than the public sector in the Third World.

Others were not so enthusiastic. "There's no direct incentive, except when we can get direct loans," a utility sales manager for a major U.S. corporation told Reuters.

Michelin buys Uniroyal Goodrich

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — French tire giant Michelin Group has agreed to acquire Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Co. in a deal valued at \$1.5 billion, Michelin announced Friday.

The acquisition will sharply boost the size of Michelin, already one of the world's largest tire companies, to challenge Goodyear, Fire and Rubber Co. for the title of world's biggest.

Michelin will pay \$690 million for Uniroyal and will assume \$810 million in debt, company officials said.

"We believe this is fine opportunity for the Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Company," said B. Charles Ames, chairman of Uniroyal.

Ames also is a principal in the New York investment firm

Clayton and Dubilier Inc., which acquired Uniroyal Inc. in 1985 to help it thwart a hostile takeover by Carl C. Icahn.

Uniroyal Goodrich was formed in 1986 as a 50-50 joint venture with the tire operations of B.F. Goodrich Co., and Clayton and Dubilier bought out Goodrich's interest last year for more than \$225 million.

"We are confident that Michelin's additional financial and technological resources will make an important contribution to the Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Company's future," Ames said.

Uniroyal Goodrich will be operated as a subsidiary of the Michelin Group. Uniroyal Goodrich will keep its headquarters in Akron and will continue to make

and distribute Uniroyal, B.F. Goodrich and other brands of tires, officials said.

Michelin Group is based in Clermont Ferrand, France. Michelin, which has U.S. headquarters in Greenville, South Carolina, employs 16,000 people at eight tire plants in the United States and Canada.

Uniroyal Goodrich own seven plants in the two countries and employs some 18,500 workers.

Uniroyal will continue to have its own board of directors and retain its corporate identity, said Michelin spokesman Jim Morton.

The Michelin Group reported 1988 sales of \$8.7 billion. Uniroyal Goodrich had sales of \$2.2 billion in 1988.

Goodyear had sales of about \$11 billion last year.

"We expect to see positive results both short-term and long-term, when Michelin's technology and research are added to our own capabilities," said Sheldon Salzman, president and chief operating officer of Uniroyal Goodrich. "This transaction will mean continued job security for our employees and a stronger Uniroyal Goodrich in the future," he said.

Weekly Amman Financial Market trading

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarizes trading activities at the Amman Financial Market starting Saturday Sept. 16, '89 and ending Wednesday Sept. 20, '89. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade	Opening price	Closing price	Par value
Banking and financial institutions					
Industrial Development Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Islamic Bank	1500	3523	2,350	2,350	1,000
Jordan Kuwait Bank	4650	6489	1,400	1,410	1,000
Housing Bank	3100	5766	1,860	1,860	1,000
Arab Jordan Investment Bank	—	—	—	—	5,000
Cairo Amman Bank	10380	152546	14,600	14,700	5,000
Bank of Jordan	2570	493515	193,750	190,500	10,000
Arab Bank	6095	15359	2,520	2,520	1,000
Jordan National Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Finance House for Development	2761	8516	3,050	3,100	1,000
Jordan Investment and Finance Bank	—	—	—	—	1,000
Finance and Credit Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Financial Investments	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Portfolio Securities	30391	48417	1,580	1,590	1,000
Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	26132	66237	2,520	2,610	1,000
Jordan Securities Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Real Estate Financing Corporation	—	—	—	—	2,000
Beit Al Mal Saving & Investment for Housing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Insurance and reinsurance					
Middle East Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan French Insurance	393790	711232	1,880	1,920	1,000
REPCO Life Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Insurance	3900	11127	2,860	2,850	1,000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance	6000	7080	1,180	1,180	1,000
Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Holy Land Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Philadelphia Insurance	4800	7361	1,520	1,520	1,000
Arab Union International Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jerusalem Insurance	4732	7837	1,600	1,600	1,000
Jordan-Gulf Insurance	4511	7068	1,560	1,600	1,000
General Arabia Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
National Ahliya Insurance	550	836	1,450	1,520	1,000
Arab Belgian Insurance and Reinsurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Insurance	—	—	—	—	1,000
Services and industries					
General Investments	—	—	—	—	1,000
Inna for Investment and Financial Facilities	—	—	—	—	1,000
Darco for Housing and Investment	38482	39425	1,010	1,020	1,000
Real Estate Investment (Aqaro)	15455	9734	0,620	0,630	1,000
Jordan Gulf Real Estate Investment	656925	259681	0,350	0,390	1,000
Jordan Leasing Corporation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments	25777	4203	0,670	0,670	1,000
Equipment Leasing & Maintenance/Tajero	500	165	0,840	0,830	1,000
International Contracting & Investment	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordanian Electric Power	8713	12438	1,420	1,430	1,000
Irbid District Electricity	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab International Hotels	173134	290238	1,640	1,650	1,000
Hotels and Tourism	—	—	—	—	1,000
United Middle East and Commodore Hotels	1800	900	0,500	0,500	1,000
Garage Owners Federation Office	1150	5352	4,500	4,600	1,000
Jordan National Shipping Lines	68050	112806	1,640	1,650	1,000
Jordan Press Foundation	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Press and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Dairy	25307	27910	1,100	1,110	1,000
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	20828	98236	4,780	4,610	1,000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries	215547	546220	2,480	2,500	1,000
Jordan Phosphate Mines	250	1100	4,460	4,400	1,000
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intaj)	51659	90593	1,630	1,770	1,000
Arab Chemical Detergent Industries	900	4670	5,300	5,100	1,000
Jordan Kuwait for Agricultural Products	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Sweets and Chocolate Manufacturing	—	—	—	—	1,000
Aladdin Industries	4550	10997	2,450	2,440	1,000
Arab Aluminum Manufacturing	42865	90015	2,110	2,080	1,000
Jordan Worems Mills	1054	5270	4,980	5,000	1,000
Jordan Ceramics	23129	59056	2,550	2,520	1,000
Chemical Industries	11177	26659	2,500	2,400	1,000
Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO)	435609	635010	1,380	1,460	1,000
Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	15107	33751	3,480	3,450	1,000
National Steel Industries	11610	26374	2,290	2,180	1,000
Universal Chemical Industries	47445	166858	3,420	3,580	5,000
Geocel Mining	200	400	2,000	2,000	1,000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery	5404	43188	8,000	7,960	1,000
Jordan Lime & Brick	21000	2520	0,120	0,120	1,000
National Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Paper Converting and Trading	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Investment and International Trade	56515	30303	0,510	0,530	1,000
Jordan Wooden Industries (JWICO)	3350	9762	2,930	2,870	1,000
Livestock and Poultry	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	57161	149521	2,550	2,600	1,000
Rafin Industrial for Plastic Bags	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	5150	29203	5,600	5,870	1,000
Jordan Rockwool Industries	547715	906076	1,600	1,650	1,000
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	2180	1766	0,830	0,810	1,000
Jordan Hume Mineral	—	—	—	—	1,000
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	—	—	—	—	1,000
Woolen Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tanning	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Printing and Packaging	—	—	—	—	1,000
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	—	—	—	—	1,000
Mas Industries	—	—	—	—	1,000
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals	334838	758424	2,190	2,280	1,000
National Cable & Wire Manufacturing	191491	565130	2,900	3,220	1,000
Jordan Spinning & Weaving	393857	863988	2,050	2,220	1,000
Jordan Sulpho Chemicals	91950	187490	2,070	2,040	1,000
Jordan Cement Factories	55275	54198	0,980	0,980	1,000
Jordan Glass Industries	1922	1958	0,990	1,020	1,000
Jordan Precast Concrete Industry	117949	74422	0,640	0,630	1,000
Grand total	4,288,842	7,808,919			

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Dubai free zone eyes \$1b investment

DUBAI (R) — The Gulf's largest free trade zone in Dubai expects to attract new investments worth more than \$400 million by 1990, the zone's chairman has said. "Investment will exceed \$1 billion in 1990 due to growing interest by world companies after the end of the Iran-Iraq war," Sultan Ibn Sulaim told reporters. The zone at Jebel Ali has attracted about 240 foreign firms which have invested nearly \$600 million since it was set up in 1985.

Iran plans gas exports to neighbours

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has said it was studying plans to export natural gas to several Gulf states. Hussein Sohamnia, a member of the Majlis (parliament) foreign relations committee, said the move was in line with instructions by President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to improve Iran's relations with its neighbours. "The president singled out gas exports to some of the Gulf countries as conducive to promotion of ties with them," Sohamnia was quoted by the Iranian news agency IRNA as saying. Iran, which has the world's second largest reserves of natural gas after the Soviet Union, has embarked on ambitious plans to increase revenue from gas exports.

Companies discover more oil in Egypt

MADRID (AP) — A joint venture between Conoco, Phillips Petroleum and Repsol S.A. has discovered oil and gas in Egypt's Western Desert, Repsol has announced. In a note, Repsol said a well in the South Umbara concession had tested 2,760 barrels of oil per day from several zones. The South Umbara concession is being drilled by the Spanish company's subsidiary, Repsol Exploration, along with partners Phillips Petroleum International Corporation Egypt and Du Pont subsidiary Conoco South Umbara Ltd., the note said. It said the companies were conducting a seismic survey to assess further drilling and exploration.

Germans prefer overtime to new jobs

FRANKFURT (R) — West German industry is meeting booming demand for its products by sanctioning overtime rather than hiring more workers, the country's largest union has said. IG Metall, which covers the steel, engineering and auto sectors, said in a statement that workers in those industries had worked around 283 million hours worth of overtime in 1988. It said about 190,000 jobs could have been created if firms had met surging demand by hiring more workers. A union official told Reuters: "Even more overtime has been worked this year, according to polls we've taken." West German companies have been reporting record profits for 1988 and the first half of this year and the economy is set for its highest growth of the decade. But this growth has done little to reduce West Germany's army of unemployed, which still numbers nearly two million, a level it first reached in 1982.

Turkey, India aim for \$300m trade

ANKARA (R) — Turkey and India want to increase bilateral trade to \$300 million a year, compared to \$205 million in 1988, Turkish Transport Minister Cengiz Tuncer has said. The two countries are to consider joint ventures in third countries, Tuncer told reporters. Turkey and India are increasing cooperation in agriculture, petrochemicals, science, technology and tourism.

S. Korea seeks wider air service

SEOUL (AP) — Korean Air (KAL) hopes to begin flights to Australia and Italy next year and will hold talks with Brazil and Iran on establishing air service, according to a report. Yonhap, the South Korean news agency, quoted an unidentified transport ministry official as saying the Seoul government hopes to see service from Seoul to Sydney and Rome from next year. The report said Australia's Qantas Airways and Italy's Alitalia had blocked service by Korean Air, but the official said Seoul believes accords can now be reached. "The rising status of Seoul as a world air traffic centre are making it easier to expand our air travel realms," the official was quoted as saying. Korean Air now serves 27 cities in 18 nations. The report said officials want to increase that to 40 cities in 25 nations by 1993. Asiana, a new private South Korean airline that offers domestic service, plans to begin international service next year with flights to Japan and South East Asia, the official said.

Tunisia reveals promising oil find

TUNIS (R) — Shell Tunirex, an exploration subsidiary of Royal Dutch Shell, has found encouraging traces of oil in a concession in northeast Tunisia, the national economy ministry has said. First tests at 2,600 metres produced a flow of 1,200 barrels a day of medium-quality crude, it said. The test well is onshore at Somas, 60 kilometres southeast of the capital on the Cap Bon peninsula. It is in the Cap Bon-Gulf of Hammamet concession. A ministry statement said further tests were needed before the economic importance of the find could be judged. Tunisia produces about 100,000 barrels of crude a day. Production has been falling in recent years because new discoveries have not compensated for ageing fields.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Saturday, September 23, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	92.7	93.6
U.S. dollar	611.3	617.3	Dutch guilder	418.9	423.1
Pound Sterling	960.8	970.4	Swedish crown	277.8	280.6
Deutschmark	313.2	316.3	Italian lira (for 100)	92.6	93.5
Swiss franc	361.4	365.0	Belgian franc (for 10)	43.5	43.9
				149.9	151.4

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris

Amman Little League Soccer
scores

Friday, Sept. 22, 1989

TOTS

7-Up (0)	vs	Wang (1)
Intercon (1)	vs	Jordan Express (3)
Konica (1)	vs	Int. Traders (1)

JUNIORS

A.I.C.I. (2)	vs	Volvo (0)
Mr. Chips (1)	vs	Pirelli (1)
Peppi (2)	vs	Jordan Insurance (0)
Apple (2)	vs	Budget (0)

MIDS

Arab Bank (2)	vs	Jordan Ornamin (1)
Al-Hikma (0)	vs	Danish Dairy (3)
Westinghouse (4)	vs	NECC (2)

SENIORS

Cairo Amman Bank (3)	vs	Pan Am (1)
Nash/Ebb (3)	vs	Aramex (2)

Soccer Standings
as of Sept. 22,

TOTS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Wang	2	0	0	4	0	6
Int. Traders	1	0	1	5	3	4
Jordan Express	0	1	1	3	5	1
Intercon	0	1	1	2	3	1
7-Up	0	1	1	1	4	1
Konica	0	1	1	1	4	1

JUNIORS

A.I.C.I.	2	0	0	3	0	6
Apple	2	0	0	4	1	6
Peppi	2	0	0	3	0	6
Mr. Chips	0	0	2	2	2	2
Volvo	0	1	1	1	3	1
Pirelli	0	1	1	1	2	1
Budget	0	2	0	0	3	0
Jordan Insurance	0	2	0	1	4	0

MIDS

Arab Bank	1	0	1	3	2	4
Danish Dairy	1	0	1	4	1	4
Westinghouse	1	0	1	4	2	4
Al-Hikma	0	1	1	1	4	1
Jordan Ornamin	0	1	1	1	2	1
NECC	0	1	1	1	3	1

SENIORS

Cairo Amman Bank	1	0	1	5	3	4
Nash-Ebb	1	0	1	5	4	4
Pan Am	1	1	0	7	4	3
Aramex	0	2	0	3	9	0

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K Q 6
♥ J 10 8 3
♦ 5 2
♣ A Q 10 4

WEST
♠ 9 7 5
♥ Q 7 4 2
♦ K Q
♣ J 9 7 3

EAST
♠ 10 8 4 3 2
♥ Void
♦ 10 9 8 6 4 3
♣ 8 6

SOUTH
♠ A J
♥ A K 9 6 5
♦ A J 7
♣ K 5 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass
6 ♣ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
We first encountered this theme in a hand declared by one of the world's great players, Ira Rubin of Paramus, N.J. He made his contract. See if you can do the same, even looking at all four hands.

Six hearts can be reached on a straight power auction such as the above. When North shows four-card heart support and a hand worth 13-15 points, South has enough to jump to slam because he has first or second-round control of all suits and a hand just a little short

of a demand bid.
West led the king of diamonds, and the first impression of the possibilities is that the slam depends either on bringing down the queen of hearts or, if her majesty does not drop, getting a 3-3 club break or felling the jack of clubs in the short-trump hand. So declarer took his ace of diamonds and cashed the ace of trumps, to learn the bad news—West held all four missing trumps.
Now declarer needed to get rid of both diamonds before losing a trump trick. One would go on a high spade, and the other would have to go on the fourth round of clubs. However, a 3-3 club break would no longer do—West would ruff the fourth club and still have the queen of hearts for the setting trick.
The only way declarer could accomplish his goal is if West started with specifically four clubs and three spades. Declarer cashed the queen and king of clubs in case East started with a doubton jack. When that chance failed to materialize, declarer boldly finessed the ten. When East showed out, South's card-reading was rewarded. He got rid of both losing diamonds as West followed helplessly, then surrendered a trick to the queen of hearts. His three remaining trumps scored the last three tricks.

American, National baseball

NEW YORK (R) — Results of major league baseball games played on Friday:

American League

Kansas City Royals	9	Seattle Mariners	2
Seattle Mariners	2	Kansas City Royals	0
New York Yankees	5	Baltimore Orioles	4
Boston Red Sox	9	Detroit Tigers	7
Oakland Athletics	5	Minnesota Twins	2
Toronto Blue Jays	7	Milwaukee Brewers	3
Chicago White Sox	9	Texas Rangers	6

California Angels at Cleveland Indians postponed-rain

National League

Chicago Cubs	4	Pittsburgh Pirates	2
New York Mets	3	Montreal Expos	2
Cincinnati Reds	8	Atlanta Braves	2
St. Louis Cardinals	2	Philadelphia Phillies	1 (10 innings)
Los Angeles Dodgers	2	San Diego Padres	1
Houston Astros	3	San Francisco Giants	1

SPORTS IN BRIEF

PLAYERS, OFFICIALS FACE TRIAL: Fifteen Czechoslovak soccer players, three team officials and four referees are to go on trial on charges of bribery and match-rigging, the Communist Party daily Rude Pravo said Saturday. The players, all from the first division club Frydek Mistek, have already been suspended from playing for periods ranging from four to 18 months by the Czechoslovak Football Association after admitting receiving bribes. The association said the players had deliberately lost to a team threatened by relegation at the end of last season.

BARBECUE MISHAP RULES OUT NOAH: Yannick Noah will be out of tennis for over a month after burning himself while trying to light a barbecue, his doctor said Friday. The Frenchman, world-ranked 14th, received second degree burns to his right thigh last Monday after a can of petrol exploded and set light to his trousers. His doctor, Dominique Leviet, said the burns would take at least three weeks to heal and he would need to rest for at least a month. Noah will miss a tournament in Switzerland starting on October 2 and is unlikely to play in the Paris grand prix beginning on Oct. 30.

Budd's father killed

By Greg Myre
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa—The father of track star Zola Budd, who was estranged from his daughter for the past several years, has been fatally shot in an apparent murder, police said Friday.

Frank Budd, 56, suffered two shotgun wounds to his left side Thursday evening at his farm near the central city of Bloemfontein, said Sgt. Mareize Visagie. She said a pickup truck and a shotgun were missing from the farmhouse.

Zola Budd and her father did not communicate in recent years and he did not attend his daughter's April 15 wedding in Bloemfontein, saying he had not been invited.

"I don't know what to say. What can a person say?" Zola Budd said upon learning of her father's death.

Budd, a retired printer, was divorced from Ms. Budd's mother and lived alone. The independent South African Press Association described Budd as a "bitter man" estranged from most of his family.

According to various reports, Ms. Budd and her father argued

frequently after she left South Africa for Britain in 1984 so she could compete internationally. Ms. Budd was hurriedly granted a British passport that year so she could compete in the 1984 summer Olympics in Los Angeles.

South African athletes are barred from international competition because of the country's apartheid policies of racial segregation.



TENNIS TOURNAMENT: Under the patronage of LL-Gen Dr. Daoud Hanania, the president of the Jordanian Tennis Federation, the YWCA Tennis Tournament finals were held for boys and girls under 17 years of age. Forty four boys and girls participated for eight days starting Sept. 15 and ending on Sept. 22 with four finals for boys and girls of two age groups. May Daoud Hanania won the cup for girls under 15 years of age. Ramzi Halabi won the cup for boys under 15 years of age. Rana Kuwar won the cup for girls under 17 years of age. And Hussein Badr Eddin won the cup for boys under 17 years of age. Dr. Hanania (above) distributed medals to all participants and judges.

EGYPT'S AHLI WINS CHAMPIONSHIP: Egypt's Ahli soccer team won the Afro-Asian championship of League Cup Winners Friday by defeating Japan's Yomiuri Club 1-0 in a match that was attended by President Hosni Mubarak. Ahli's only goal came in the 40th minute when striker Tahir Abu-Zeid scored by the head from a ball Yomiuri's goal keeper Dirk Havenaar repulsed from a kick by Egyptian forward Mohammad Abdul Galil who bypassed Yomiuri's backleft Gorge Toledo. The Egyptian team outplayed the Japanese and missed at least five golden chances especially one at the 85th minute when Hossein Hassan came face to face with Havenaar but was too slow and his kick went too high.

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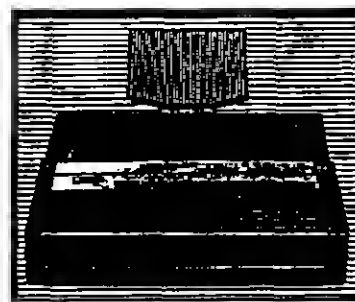
Cinema

PLAZA

Tel: 677420

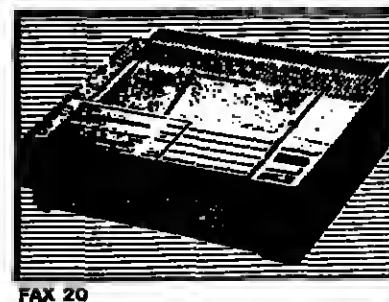
SILK

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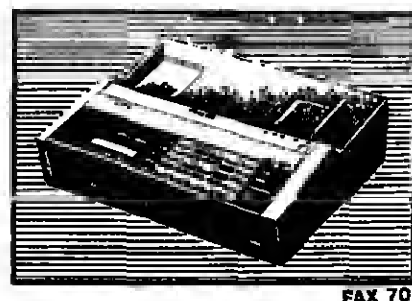
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THE Daily Crossword by William Canine

ACROSS

- Table stake
- Guarrel
- Harm
- Exemption
- Burghoff or Coleman
- Inactive
- Greenings
- Enthusiastic
- Lacerate
- Command
- Site of Samarkand
- Popular TV character once
- Claim
- Acorn egg
- Violent wind
- Musical of old
- Coverall
- Cerotic Benny
- Like part
- Crude ones
- Period
- Reveries
- Ancient land
- Yard sections
- Resource
- Scale start
- Concealing
- Host
- Herman
- Popular TV host once
- Shocking role
- Out in front
- Viking war god
- Veitch
- Frenzy
- Dispatch
- Furnace
- Tropical wood
- SPCE word
- Beaver and Sparks

DOWN

- Tropical lizard
- USIA word
- Warble
- Mrs. Lawrence
- Leaves
- Profit with gram or logical
- Weakness
- Compasser
- Grofe
- Interior
- Sandwich
- Ray
- Escaped
- 1776 loyalist
- Heller
- Slant and Burns
- "O! - I Sing"
- Popular TV comic once
- Novelist
- Hardoch
- Position
- Examine
- Not up yet
- Sport of dogs
- Violent sound
- Anger
- Wood strip
- Comfort
- Strut
- SOXI
- Topple
- Dear kin
- Alpine sound
- Interface
- Having
- preference
- Barbara and Anthony
- Plucky
- "Popstar"
- captain
- Gambling apt
- Shower
- Stating

Police break up Pretoria march

PRETORIA (AP) — Police blocked entrances to the capital Saturday, strung barbed wire down the main street, and arrested 100 people who tried to participate in an anti-apartheid march organised by 30 women's groups.

A witness said some women who failed to quickly disperse were beaten by police with batons. In a separate incident, police arrested blacks and whites after a confrontation at the scene of a demonstration by white supremacist groups.

"It is the same as any other country in the world. People can't break the law," said Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok, standing among truncheon-carrying riot police behind the barbed wire that blocked the entrance to St. Alban's Anglican Cathedral.

A two-page notice was tacked to the door of the church, saying the government had obtained a court order to stop the church service and the planned march to the union buildings, the government's administrative headquarters.

Two teargas cannon trucks

were parked nearby, and hundreds of police lined the streets as the city centre came to a standstill.

The government banned the women's march because the organisers refused to ask for official permission, although women's groups said they had notified top government officials, including President F.W. de Klerk, and discussed their plans with Pretoria traffic police.

The government allowed two white supremacist groups to hold rallies two blocks from the cathedral at ebnreb square, saying it did so because those groups had sought permission.

As the first of the right-wing meetings ended, a confrontation occurred when about 40 blacks tried to walk across the square. They were stopped by members of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, who wear khaki uniforms and use swastika symbols.

Police began moving the blacks, who were flashing peace signs and calling out to the whites, "peace, we all have the same blood."

Suddenly, the police turned their dogs loose and began run-

ning through the square arresting blacks. They ordered reporters and everyone else to clear the area.

It was not immediately clear whether the second right-wing rally would be allowed to take place as scheduled.

Organisers of the women's march said police blocked almost all traffic from the black townships around Pretoria and roadblocks were set up at the freeway exits leading into the city from north and south, where vehicles were searched and turned back.

About 30,000 women were expected to defy the ban and try to march against apartheid, South Africa's policies of racial segregation.

About 200 women, most of them white, made their way to a park, but police arrived and ordered them to leave.

They apparently did not move quickly enough, and several were arrested. A.R. Dawood, of the Transvaal Indian Congress, said police hit some of the women with batons.

Dozens of other protesters, including men, were arrested short-

ly afterward when they arrived in buses at the park. They were taken away in police vans.

At the Afrikaner group's rally, about 1,500 white supremacists sang hymns and read from The Bible as hundreds of blacks looked on.

Eugene Terreblanche, leader of the Afrikaner Resistance Movement, said if the government gave in to the black majority, his group would regain power for whites with force.

One white-supremacist banner said, "apartheid — solution for

aids." Another called for the hanging of Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned black leader of the African National Congress' guerrilla wing, and the release from prison of Barend Strydom, a white former policeman convicted earlier this year of killing seven black people in a shooting spree in the centre of Pretoria.

After the Afrikaner rally, a breakaway group called the Boer Freedom Movement had planned to demonstrate at the statue of Paul Kruger, a folk hero of the Dutch-descended Afrikaners who now control the government.

Bomb hits Colombia paper

BOGOTA (R) — A bomb exploded Friday night at an office of a leading Colombian newspaper and crusader against the country's powerful drug traffickers, a day after Colombia's Justice Minister was replaced.

The bomb badly damaged a subscriptions and advertising office of the 102-year-old newspaper El Espectador in a residential district of western Bogota, a Reuters reporter on the scene said. The newspaper's headquarters were hit by a massive bomb three weeks ago.

One guard was slightly wounded in the attack Friday and windows were blown out in a square-block area. Police said two people fled on foot after planting the bomb.

The agency's manager said he had received many telephone threats but added: "This won't affect the paper much. It was more of a symbol."

On Sept. 2, a 90-kilogramme bomb killed one person and injured 83 others at the newspaper.

Earlier Friday, Communications Minister Carlos Lemos Simmonds was given the dangerous job of running Colombia's justice ministry following the resignation

of Monica de Greiff after just two months in office.

The 32-year-old de Greiff said she resigned after President Virgilio Barco offered her a diplomatic post, which she declined. It was not immediately clear whether the change had been initiated by Barco or requested by de Greiff, the target of repeated death threats.

A presidential decree said Lemos Simmonds, a former foreign minister and ambassador to the Organisation of American States, was put in charge of the justice ministry in addition to his other duties. He was not named justice minister.

De Greiff told reporters Friday she decided to submit her resignation Thursday, two days after Barco offered her the post of ambassador to Portugal, which she declined.

"The president removes and installs ministers as he wants. The president wanted a change now and I am not going to start a scandal over this," she said.

Police Friday said another explosion after the newspaper bombing damaged a telephone exchange box in southern Bogota.

There were no reports of injuries. The bombs brought to 24 to the number to explode in Bogota this week, the largest wave of sabotage in the capital since "the extraditables," a drug-backed group, declared war on the government a month ago.

Also Friday, the army announced the arrests of four people and said two of them confessed to taking part in the Aug. 18 assassination of a leading presidential candidate.

General Ramon Eduardo Nibbles, commander of the 13th army brigade in Bogota, told reporters that one of the four owned a car that was found Thursday packed with 90 kilograms of dynamite outside the home of the chief of Colombia's secret police. The car bomb was defused.

"Two of them confessed their direct participation," in the murder of presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan, he said, adding they apparently acted on orders from drug traffickers.

Barco launched a tough crackdown on the country's powerful, violent drug lords hours after Galan's assassination.

WEDDING

Wedding will go on despite disasters

WILMINGTON, North Carolina (AP) — Constance Bland had heard all the horror stories about what could go wrong in the days before her wedding. But in her wildest dreams she never expected her groom to be in a plane crash. Or a hurricane to wipe out both her honeymoon plans and the hotel arrangements for out-of-town guests. Barring further disaster, Saturday's wedding will go on. "I'm so stressed out right now, there's no way I could handle planning this again," Bland said late Thursday as Hurricane Hugo approached the South Carolina coast. "If I can just walk down that aisle with 10 people in the church, I'll be happy."

Her fiancé, Tom Newberry, a New York City banker, was a passenger on the USAIR jetliner that plunged into New York's East River late Wednesday after an aborted takeoff from Laganaria airport. Two women were killed. The plane had been en route to Charlotte. Newberry, 27, survived the crash and was reportedly driving to Wilmington for the wedding. Newberry crawled out of the wrecked plane and clung to a piling in the water with other passengers until rescuers arrived.

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Warring Cambodians agree to talks

BANGKOK (AP) — With the threat of worsening civil war in Cambodia as Vietnam's troops head home, the country's warring factions have agreed to meet once more to try to negotiate peace, the Thai prime minister said Saturday.

Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan said that after meetings in the past two weeks with leaders of Cambodia's three guerrilla factions and Phnom Penh Premier Hun Sen, all of the parties had agreed to future talks.

But the time and place of the talks had yet to be settled, he said.

"We cannot let the Cambodian fighting go on any longer. If a civil war happens, Thailand will have to bear a greater burden of Cambodian refugees," Chatichai said.

He said Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of the resistance coalition, had suggested the meeting be held in Bangkok, Jakarta, Indonesia, or Paris. Chatichai said he favoured

the Indonesian capital, where the last two informal meetings between the factions were held.

Paris was the site last month of an international conference that failed to find a solution to the Cambodian war. Among the participants were the four warring groups.

Sihanouk suggested the new talks include the members of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), France, Vietnam, and the four Cambodian factions. He would attend too, he said.

Chatichai said Sihanouk urged that the meeting concentrate on the formation of an international control body in Cambodia.

The international body proposed by the guerrillas would be responsible for verifying Vietnam's withdrawal from Cambodia and supervising a ceasefire and the deployment of a peacekeeping force.

Vietnam says the last of its troops, which entered Cambodia in late 1978 to oust the

Khmer Rouge and install a sympathetic government, will be out of the country by mid-September. But the guerrillas contend Hanoi will leave thousands behind disguised as Cambodians.

Chatichai said Hun Sen is willing to accept the involvement of the United Nations in forming an international body in Cambodia.

In the past, Hun Sen has opposed U.N. involvement because the world body recognises the guerrillas as the legitimate government in Cambodia, not his own.

Chatichai said Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetilla would brief Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and ASEAN ministers on results of the Bangkok talks while he is in New York for the U.N. General Assembly meeting this week.

Chatichai said he would suggest to Alatas that the new meeting be held as soon as possible. ASEAN is made up of Thailand, Brunei, the Philip-

pines, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore.

The Thai army's commander-in-chief, General Chavalit Yongchaiyudh, said Hun Sen's willingness to involve the United Nations in the peace process had been a major boost in making the new meeting possible.

Chavalit said he did not see who could win the Cambodian civil war, and echoed Chatichai's concern for the safety of the Thais living near the Cambodian war zone.

"We do not want to see our school children having to run away from bullets and artillery," he said. "Even if the meeting doesn't succeed we want them to stop fighting. That's why we invited them here."

Thailand also is concerned about an increase in the number of refugees along its frontier should fighting escalate inside Cambodia. Nearly 300,000 refugees now live along the frontier.

Weakened Hugo dashes north

CHARLESTON, South Carolina (AP) — Hurricane Hugo has devastated one of the nation's most historic and picturesque cities, killed at least 11 people in the Carolinas and caused \$1 billion in damage.

"There's just destruction everywhere," said Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley, who imposed a 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. (2200 GMT to 1100 GMT) curfew. He said Friday it is a "disaster of extraordinary dimensions."

Riley estimated damage at \$1 billion in the city of 65,000 people.

President George Bush declared seven counties a federal disaster area, which makes federal aid available for such things as temporary housing, low-cost loans for rebuilding and grants for repairing roads, bridges and other public structures.

"It's going to be miraculous if we don't have a heavy loss of life," Governor Carroll Campbell of South Carolina said Friday. "It is the worst storm, the worst disaster, I've ever seen anywhere."

Hugo hit Charleston with full fury before being downgraded to a tropical storm at 6 a.m. (1000 GMT) Friday. It weakened as it headed inland to the north, losing all characteristics of a tropical

storm although the system had maximum sustained winds of 65 kilometres per hour.

The last location given by federal officials for the storm was in western Pennsylvania at a latitude of 40.5 degrees north and longitude 81 degrees west. Officials said there would be no further tracking.

Ten of the U.S. deaths from the storm were in South Carolina and on — a six-month-old baby — was in North Carolina.

Hugo devastated a string of Caribbean resort islands beginning early Sunday. There were 20 confirmed deaths in the Caribbean, but an official on Puerto Rico said the death toll for the region was 26 people. About 50,000 people were left homeless in the region.

The centre of the storm advanced farther westward than expected, targeting eastern Ohio, western Pennsylvania and western New York before it was expected to wear itself out in Canada.

It was moving to the north at 48 kilometres per hour. A hurricane is a heat engine fuelled by warm, moist air over open oceans. When these giant storms hit land, they lose their wallop, although they can still manage considerable bluster.

China pursue reform under set conditions

BEIJING (AP) — China will continue pursuing reforms, but only those that enhance the Communist Party and improve socialism, party chief Jiang Zemin said Friday.

A front-page editorial in the People's Daily, the party newspaper, also assured the continuation of the open-door policy while maintaining the need to follow the party's directives.

The paper said China's goals are to develop socialism and liberate productive forces, which can be achieved only through the open-door policy.

"This cannot be done unless the closed-door system is destroyed and the ossified ways changed," it said. "We must never return to the old, closed system."

Jiang's statement was made at a meeting of local party organisations and model party workers attended by other top leaders, including Premier Li Peng and President Yang Shangkun, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

The People's Daily editorial acknowledged that there are worries in China and abroad that the crackdown on dissent, with its renewed emphasis on ideology and campaign against Western liberal ideas, could mean an end

to the past decade of reform and open-door policies.

The crackdown began with the June 3-4 attack on pro-democracy demonstrators in Peking in which hundreds, perhaps thousands, of civilians were killed.

The People's Daily made it clear that the reform and open-door policies supported by China's leaders does not mean the nation would become capitalist or adopt Western.

It also maintained that the policies cannot be divorced from correct political ideology and the leadership of the party.

The editorial said that while maintaining the general policy of reform and opening up, China's leaders could change specific policies or methods.

While stressing the need to attack "bourgeois liberalism," or Western liberal ideas, Li cautioned against taking it to an extreme.

He also said there was nothing wrong with letting some people get rich first, a reference to the economic reforms that have brought a degree of prosperity to some farmers and private entrepreneurs.

However, he added that the degree of China's open-door policy would depend "on our ability to control things."

Lithuania challenges Moscow on two fronts

MOSCOW (AP) — Lithuanian lawmakers challenged Moscow's authority in both party and government affairs Friday with a new law on economic independence, just two days after party leaders warned against further restiveness.

The Lithuanian Supreme Soviet, or republic legislature, approved a law on economic independence declaring that all natural resources in Lithuania belong to the republic and not to the national government.

The official TASS news agency reported that Lithuania's Communist Party published a draft of its own party platform that reportedly called for a federation of Communist parties from the 15 Soviet republics rather than a unified party, as President Mikhail S. Gorbachev demanded.

Asked in a telephone interview whether he expected the Lithuanian party programme to conflict with Moscow's decree, national parliamentarian Mccys Laurinkus said, "Of course, I'm convinced

of that."

TASS noted that Gorbachev, who closed the long-delayed party Central Committee meeting on ethnic relations Wednesday, had said that a federation of parties "would mean an end to our party in the form in which it was founded by Lenin, and would strike an irreparable blow to socialism."

"Those who would follow this road, would take on themselves a heavy responsibility before the party and the people," Gorbachev said at the closed meeting, according to TASS.

Gorbachev and the Central Committee warned the Baltic republics a month ago that separatists were leading them into an abyss. The Soviet leader said in opening the Central Committee meeting Tuesday that separatist "demagogues" could not be tolerated.

TASS reported that the Lithuanian party programme published Friday in Lithuania, Russian and Polish declared that the Republic Party was separating itself from the past of Stalinist repression

and dogmatic Marxism-Leninism.

Laurinkus and other members of the independent Lithuanian political movement called Sajudis said the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet enacted a decree on economic independence that was made several months ago.

They said they expected conflicts with Moscow on that front as well, but it was unclear how severe they would be. At the first session of the national Supreme Soviet Parliament this summer, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia won the right to develop much greater economic independence beginning Jan. 1.

The national Communist Party platform on ethnic relations approved in Moscow Wednesday recognises republics' rights to own the natural resources on their territory.

But Lithuanian legislators said there likely would be differences of interpretation that must be worked out by the fall session of the national Supreme Soviet, which begins Monday.

Global weather

	MM	MAX	W
AMSTERDAM	10	50	20 Cloudy
ATHENS	19	60	29 84 Cloudy
BAHRAIN	27	81	34 93 Clear
BANGKOK	25	77	32 90 Clear
BUEENOS AIRES	17	55	20 65 Rain
CAIRO	20	68	31 88 Clear
CHICAGO	14	26	78 Clear
COPTENHAGEN	14	57	22 72 Cloudy
FRANKFURT	15	59	25 77 Cloudy
GENOVA	13	55	18 64 Rain
HONG KONG	25	77	29 84 Cloudy
ISTANBUL	16	51	16 71 Cloudy
LONDON	12	54	19 66 Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	17	62	88 Cloudy
MADRID	14	57	28 82 Clear
MECCA	23	82	46 115 Clear
MONTREAL	05	41	16 61 Cloudy
MOSCOW	08	40	60 Clear
NEW DELHI	26	76	37 99 Clear
NEW YORK	24	75	28 80 Cloudy
PARIS	14	57	23 72 Clear
ROME	13	55	23 74 Clear
SYDNEY	15	59	22 72 Clear
TOKYO	21	75	27 80 Cloudy
VIENNA	14	57	24 75 Clear

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Co-pilot pushed wrong button

NEW YORK (AP) — The co-pilot of the USAIR jet that crashed into a river, killing two people, inadvertently pushed a button that caused the 737-400 to decelerate, federal officials said Friday after interviewing the cockpit crew. The plane began to veer to the left and the pilot, feeling a vibration, then aborted the takeoff Wednesday night, said James Kohlstad, acting administrator of the National Transportation Safety Board. "He initiated the abort because of the drift," he said. Kohlstad said the plane has automatic throttles, triggered by pushing a button that will accelerate the aircraft to a predetermined speed for takeoff. The co-pilot inadvertently hit the disengage button and the pilot jumped in to move the throttle manually, Kohlstad said. But the plane started drifting to the left, he said. "The pilot felt and heard a vibration which concerned him," he said. The co-pilot, meanwhile, told investigators he was looking out the front window when he realised the captain was going to abort the flight, Kohlstad said.

Irving Berlin dead at 101

NEW YORK (AP) — Songwriter Irving Berlin, who celebrated his adopted homeland with memorable melodies and simple but heartfelt lyrics in such standards as "God Bless America" and "White Christmas," died Friday night. He was 101. Berlin died in his sleep at 5:30 p.m. (2130 GMT), said his son-in-law, Alton E. Peters. Asked if Berlin had been ill, Peters said: "No, he was 101

years old. ...he just fell asleep." Peters said nurses were with Berlin when he died, but no family members were present. An actor, singer, and songwriter, Berlin began his career in the early days of vaudeville and his songs for a time so dominated the stage and screen that the late composer, Jerome Kern, said: "Berlin has no place in American music. He is American music." Bill Hargrove, evening manager at the Frank Campbell funeral home in New York City, said services would be private. Berlin, along with 11 other U.S. immigrants, received a medal from then-President Ronald Reagan during the Statue of Liberty centennial celebrations in July.

FDA worried over sleeping pill

WASHINGTON (R) — Food and Drug Administration (FDA) officials said Friday they were worried about side effects reported by users of the world's best-selling sleeping pill. Doctor Paul Leber of the FDA said the drug, Halcion, "has been the subject of recurring waves of adverse reports since its introduction into the domestic market." Leber told the agency's psychopharmacological drugs advisory committee, a panel of outside experts, that the agency was seeking its advice because it did not know how to interpret the side-effect reports. Another FDA official, Charles Anello, called the reports "something to be concerned about." He said reports of amnesia, anxiety, hallucinations, confusion, intentional injury and seizures have been recorded for Halcion far out of proportion to the drug's market share.

THE Sunday Crossword

WINGED WORDS

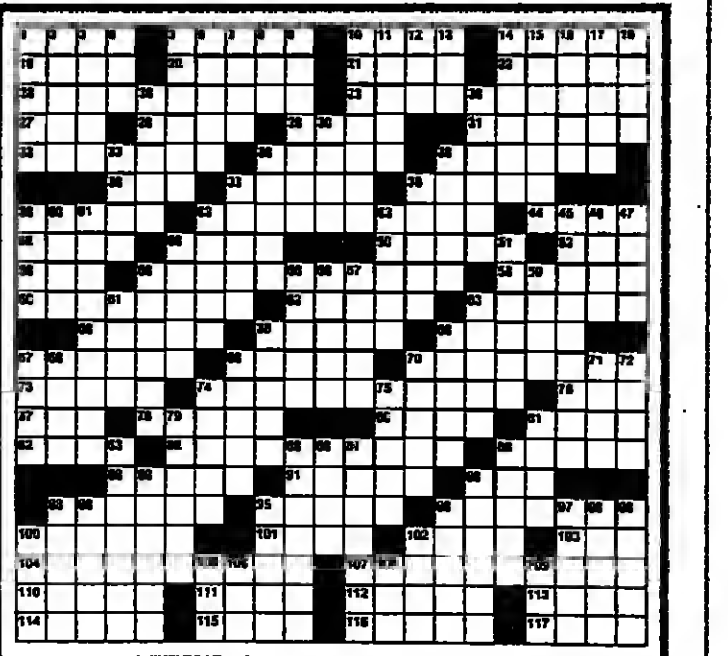
By Bernice Gordon

- ACROSS
- 1 Thrill
 - 5 City on the Nile
 - 10 Prince of opera
 - 14 Migrating
 - 19 US author
 - 20 Rite
 - 21 Famous city
 - 22 Fruit drink
 - 23 Arctic
 - 24 "The Great Escape"
 - 25 Tanya
 - 26 Unsettled
 - 27 "The Great Escape"
 - 28 "The Great Escape"
 - 29 Charlotte and
 - 31 Guller
 - 32 Owners (pl)
 - 34 Makes secure
 - 35 Young salmon
 - 36 Salomon's mount
 - 37 Use a
 - 38 glaciologist
 - 39 Chessman
 - 40 Bol. city
 - 41 FK Larry with
 - 42 "The Great Escape"
 - 43 Ring stone
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Diagramless

19 X 19, By Martin J. D. Wit

- ACROSS
- 1 Yelled land
 - 5 Church's workshop
 - 9 Spad
 - 10 Alone
 - 11 Relieved
 - 12 Termagant
 - 13 "We Off"
 - 14 Liquid measures: abbr.
 - 15 Extra
 - 16 Hooter: guns
 - 19 Precious
 - 22 Second
 - 23 Fruit drink
 - 24 Slight shaking
 - 25 Former
 - 26 Said
 - 27 Mocking
 - 28 Alarming
 - 29 Woman
 - 30 Division: abbr.
 - 31 Adulate
 - 32 Performer with
 - 33 On
 - 34 Area of river sediment
 - 40 Showed on TV
 - 41 Pulp
 - 42 Pursue
 - 43 Muse of poetry
 - 44 Minimal
 - 45 Disk
 - 46 Daffus
 - 47 "The Great Escape"
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Last